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U.S. STANCE

In close contact with India, Pakistan: Vance

NEWS » PAGE 13

DOWNPOUR IN DELHI

Heavy rain, strong winds leave 4 dead

NEWS » PAGE 14

NATIONAL HERALD CASE

Delhi court issues notice to Sonia, Rahul

NEWS » PAGE 12

IMPACT ON RUSSIA

The chatter in Moscow's Red Square

How Muscovites view Ukraine war, U.S. ties

GROUND ZERO » PAGE 11

ON THE RISE

Gill, Buttler set up GT's win over SRH

SPORT » PAGE 17

NEARBY

HC dismisses Ravi's plea

BENGALURU
The High Court of Karnataka on Friday refused to interfere with a criminal case registered against BJP MLC C.T. Ravi for allegedly outraging the modesty of Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar by using an abusive word inside the Legislative Council last year. » PAGE 8

Bandh called by VHP peaceful

MANGALURU
The bandh called by Vishwa Hindu Parishad protesting the killing of murder-accused Suhas Shetty in the hands of a group of people at Bajpe here on Thursday passed off peacefully on Friday. » Page 2

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

Port economy will drive India's growth, says PM

Modi commissions the ₹8,800 crore Vizhinjam International Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport, India's first dedicated container transshipment port, in Kerala; project developed by Adani Group

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Coastal States and port cities will become key growth centres for a developed India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, speaking after commissioning the ₹8,800-crore Vizhinjam International Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport in Kerala's capital. The Centre is committed to strengthening this channel of economic power to take the maritime sector to new heights, he said.

The port economy reaches its full potential when infrastructure and the ease of doing business are promoted together, Mr. Modi said, noting that this has been the blueprint of the Centre's port and waterways policy over the last decade. Underscoring the critical role of the private sector, he said that thousands of crores have been invested through public-private partnerships (PPP) over the past 10 years, to upgrade India's ports to global standards and make them future-ready.

With a natural deep draft of nearly 20 metres and located near one of the world's busiest sea trade routes, the new Vizhinjam port is expected to strengthen India's position in global trade, enhancing logistics efficiency, and reducing reliance on foreign ports for cargo transshipment. The Vizhinjam facility is the country's first dedicated container transshipment port, and was developed by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd, through a public-private partnership with the Kerala government.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Gautam Adani after the inauguration. PTI

PM launches new projects, backs Amaravati plans

AMARAVATI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated about ₹58,000 crore worth of works in Andhra Pradesh on Friday. He virtually re-started the unfinished works at Amaravati, and said the Centre would extend full support to the State to realise its vision. » PAGE 9

SC grants relief to J&K family facing deportation to Pak.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court asked the Centre on Friday to desist from taking coercive action against six members of a family, threatened with deportation to Pakistan, until their papers and identity records are thoroughly verified by authorities.

"In the peculiar facts and circumstances of this case, authorities may not take coercive action till an appropriate decision is taken. If petitioners are dissatisfied by the final decision, they can approach Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court. This order shall not be treated as a precedent," the Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant observed.

The top court was hearing a plea by Ahmed Tarek Butt and his family, who claimed they were detained and taken to the Wagah border for deportation to Pakistan despite having valid Indian documents. The family members are residents of Kashmir, and their son works in Bengaluru.

They are facing deportation following the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people lost their lives.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

The Centre has set out a timeline for deportation of Pakistan nationals in India. PTI

SSLC results up from last year by 8.34 percentage points

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The results of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) annual exam-1 this year, which were announced on Friday, improved by 8.34 percentage points compared to the previous year.

A total of 22 students, including two from government schools, managed to get the perfect score (625/625) and emerged as State toppers. Students from Bengaluru secured most positions, with seven students scoring 100%.

According to the results announced by Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB), the overall pass percentage this year is 62.34 as against 54 recorded last year, which was later pushed to 73, by giving grace marks.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

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GETTY IMAGES

McLaren power struggle, flexing wings, Max's tomorrow: reading the early F1 tea leaves

Five races in, 2025 is set for a blockbuster summer that could define seasons to come. A technical directive, which will be in force from the Spanish GP, could alter the competitive order, which currently features Verstappen in an unreliable Red Bull looking to limit McLaren's frontrunning rivals Norris and Piastri

S. Dipak Ragav

As Formula One prepares for its hectic summer schedule, starting this weekend in Miami, the next few months could determine the championship's direction and also have far-reaching consequences beyond this season. *The Hindu* examines a few potential subplots that could unfold over the remaining 19 races.

Piastri vs. Norris

During pre-season testing, it was evident McLaren had the best car, continuing from where it left off last year when it clinched the constructors' title. So the expectations naturally were that Lando Norris, who gave reigning champion Max Verstappen a slight scare in 2024, would be the favourite, having been battle-hardened.

However, five rounds in, the Briton has been overshadowed by teammate Oscar Piastri, who is leading the drivers' standings by 10 points.

The Australian has claimed victory in three out of the five events, demonstrating that he has taken another leap in his overall game. In his sophomore campaign, he addressed his tyre management weakness, but struggled in qualifying. Now, the 24-year-old appears to have improved his single-lap pace as well, given his two pole positions so far.

Norris has had a poor start to the season despite impressing in the opener in Australia, where he won from pole in a tricky race under mixed conditions. The 25-year-old is unhappy with the handling of the McLaren and struggled in China and Bahrain, where Piastri led from lights to flag. He has also been error-prone, as evidenced by his crash in qualifying for the Saudi Arabian GP, which left him starting 10th. Even in wheel-to-wheel combat, Norris has looked tardy.

All of this raises a significant question: is Norris ready for battle, especially at a time when his colleague is operating at a high level? Piastri showed great mental fortitude by quickly getting over his mistake in Melbourne where he lost second place after running wide when rain hit the track. Since finishing ninth in his home race, the Melburnian has won three of four Grands Prix.

Lando Norris, the presumptive favourite, has been overshadowed by teammate Oscar Piastri. Is the Briton ready for battle, especially at a time when his colleague is operating at a high level?

Last year, Norris squandered pole positions through poor starts and was often second-best in duels with Verstappen, which prompted many to question his mental toughness. His performances so far have reinforced that perception. How he responds could be crucial to his career.

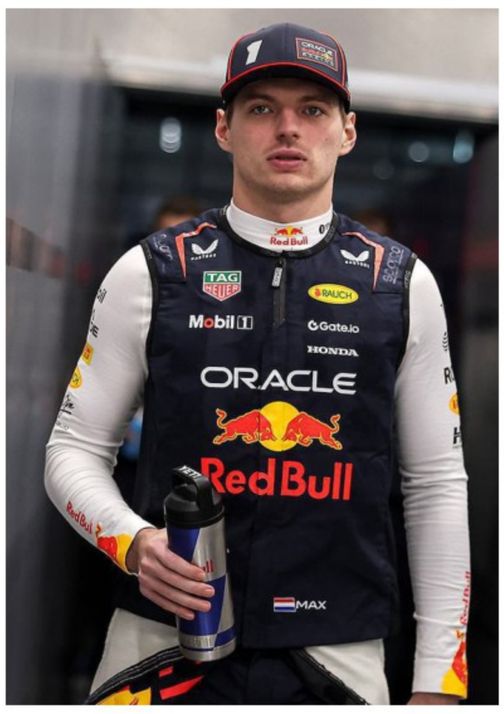
This loss of form could also have a bearing on how the Woking-based outfit operates. Until now, the British racer has been McLaren's de facto leader, given that he has been with the team since 2019. However, if Piastri continues to extend his good run, the factory may be inclined to heed the Aussie's preferences more when it comes to deciding on the developmental direction.

Deep down, Norris will know he has a golden opportunity to win a title and has wasted his advantage over the last four races. Unless he gets on top of things quickly, he runs the risk of coming to regret the years of hard work he has invested in getting his squad to where it is.

Spanish surprise

Ever since McLaren made a significant step forward midway through last year, a theory doing the rounds is that it has mastered the art of flexing the wings, especially the front wing, which enhances aerodynamic performance. The aerodynamic parts flex as the car transitions through different speeds, but they aren't permitted to move beyond a stipulated range. While a certain tolerance for flex is allowed, it was believed that a few teams were exceeding this tolerance during running, yet still passing the static load tests.

Although no team has been found to have breached the regulations, the FIA has decided to decrease the amount of tolerance during the load tests to curb flexing. Considering McLaren is



only slightly ahead of Red Bull, at least in the hands of Verstappen, the new technical directive, which will come into effect from the Spanish GP, could have an impact on the pecking order and the title fight if it indeed takes away some of the former's advantage.

Verstappen, Red Bull and the future

The four-time champion has produced another masterclass in the second- or third-best machinery and is third in the standings, 12 points off the leader. His pole laps in Suzuka and Jeddah were spectacular, helping him win the former and finish second in the latter. He has managed to extract performances while his teammates are struggling to score a point.

At the same time, the tracks and the cooler conditions have masked Red Bull's weaknesses. As we head to the more traditional circuits in possibly hotter conditions, the real test for the energy drink giant begins. The Red Bull's problem of being unpredictable in different ways through different corners has not abated. It is challenging to balance the vehicle on a knife-edge every weekend. It's unsustainable over a season, even if Verstappen has managed it so far.

The Dutchman has a contract until 2028, but there are break clauses, and rumours of him leaving the outfit keep surfacing from time to time. If the Milton Keynes-based squad is not quick enough to help him defend his crown, the 27-year-old might run out of patience. Without Verstappen, Red Bull will be fighting for scraps. The management will certainly hope the planned upgrade in Imola delivers enough improvement to keep its biggest asset happy.

Balancing the development race

2025 marks the last season under the current set of technical regulations, introduced in 2022. Next year, F1 transitions to active aerodynamics, featuring movable front and rear wings, sustainable fuels, and a slightly modified hybrid power unit. So, the teams have a challenging task bringing upgrades to this year's package while also shifting their focus to 2026, which will lay the foundations for the next few years.

For some at the back of the grid, the best option would be to switch priorities early and try to adapt to the new regulations. They can take inspiration from what Honda did in 2008 – it shut that year's programme early before the team morphed into Brawn GP and helped Jenson Button become world champion while also taking home the constructors' crown in 2009.

Williams, currently fifth in the standings, has become the first team to target 2026. At the same time, for the likes of McLaren and Red Bull, it will be a tricky balance as they are locked in this year's fight. It will get even trickier if Ferrari and Mercedes start challenging for wins.

In 2008, BMW halted its programme at a time when its driver, Robert Kubica, was leading the drivers' standings, relinquishing a chance to fight for the big prize in the hope of performing well in 2009. Unfortunately, it failed to do so and ultimately withdrew from the sport at the end of the year.

So, the next few months could prove defining not just for this year's championship, but also for next year and beyond.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	9,930	15
2	Alexander Zverev	28	8,085	22
3	Carlos Alcaraz	21	8,050	20
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,115	20
5	Novak Djokovic	37	4,120	19
6	Jack Draper	23	3,820	19
7	Alex de Minaur	26	3,585	23
8	Andrey Rublev	27	3,530	28
9	Holger Rune	21	3,480	23
10	Daniil Medvedev	29	3,290	20
11	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,200	23
12	Tommy Paul	27	3,160	21
13	Ben Shelton	22	3,020	25
14	Arthur Fils	20	2,920	23
15	Casper Ruud	26	2,815	24

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 165 ▲ 6 spots

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 456 ▼ 1 spot

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	26	10,768	19
2	Iga Swiatek	23	7,383	16
3	Jessica Pegula	31	6,208	19
4	Coco Gauff	21	6,073	20
5	Madison Keys	30	4,999	19
6	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,930	18
7	Mirra Andreeva	17	4,781	18
8	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,193	19
9	Paula Badosa	27	3,821	21
10	Emma Navarro	23	3,797	26
11	Elena Rybakina	25	3,308	18
12	Karolina Muchova	28	2,919	17
13	Diana Shnaider	21	2,913	28
14	Daria Kasatkina	27	2,741	24
15	Barbora Krejcikova	29	2,674	14

Top Indians ▶

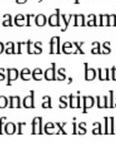
Ankita Raina
Rank 306 ▼ 2 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 320 ▼ 2 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	99	3
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	89	1
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	87	1
4	George Russell	Mercedes	73	0
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	47	0
6	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	38	0
7	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	31	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	20	0
9	Esteban Ocon	Haas	14	0
10	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	10	0
11	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	6	0
12	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	6	0
13	Oliver Bearman	Haas	6	0
14	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	5	0
15	Carlos Sainz	Williams	5	0
16	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	5	0
17	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	0	0
18	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	0	0
19	Jack Doohan	Alpine	0	0
20	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	0	0

Oscar Piastri



Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	188	4
2	Mercedes	111	0
3	Red Bull	89	1
4	Ferrari	78	0
5	Williams	25	0
6	Haas	20	0
7	Aston Martin	10	0
8	RB	8	0
9	Alpine	6	0
10	Kick Sauber	6	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	99,435	13
2	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	89,138	17
3	Anders Antonsen	87,693	19
4	Viktor Axelsen	87,610	13
5	Li Shi Feng	81,656	18
6	Jonatan Christie	81,327	16
7	Chou Tien Chen	76,157	23
8	Kodai Naraoka	75,387	20
9	Lee Zii Jia	73,665	14
10	Alex Lanier	70,671	17
11	Loh Kean Yew	62,299	20
12	Weng Hong Yang	61,767	16
13	Kenta Nishimoto	61,603	22
14	Lu Guang Zu	60,905	19
15	Chia Hao Lee	59,408	22

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 18

H. S. Prannoy
Rank 30

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,12,867	11
2	Wang Zhi Yi	98,315	18
3	Han Yue	83,909	19
4	Akane Yamaguchi	79,967	12
5	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	79,082	17
6	Pornpawee Chochuwong	70,778	22
7	Chen Yu Fei	69,882	9
8	Tomoka Miyazaki	68,271	20
9	Supanida Katethong	67,264	15
10	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	62,460	18
11	Putri Kusuma Wardani	61,627	18
12	Yeo Jia Min	61,583	17
13	Ratchanok Intanon	61,413	19
14	Gao Fang Jie	61,050	13
15	Sim Yu Jin	57,780	15

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 18

Malvika Bansod
Rank 22

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	895	932
2	Harry Brook	876	898
3	Kane Williamson	867	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	847	854
5	Steve Smith	823	947
6	Temba Bavuma	769	769
7	Kamindu Mendis	761	779
8	Travis Head	748	884
9	Usman Khawaja	739	847
9	Rishabh Pant	739	801

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	908	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	837	902
3	Pat Cummins	824	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	818	864
5	Nathan Lyon	812	812
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Marco Jansen	785	803
8	Matt Henry	782	782
9	Prabath Jayasuriya	751	801
10	Ravindra Jadeja	745	899

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	766	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Heinrich Klaasen	744	760
5	Virat Kohli	736	909
6	Daryl Mitchell	720	750
7	Harry Tector	713	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Charith Asalanka	694	694
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	680	686
2	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
3	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
4	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
5	Rashid Khan	640	799
6	Mitchell Santner	637	657
7	Gudakesh Motie	632	639
8	Matt Henry	622	691
9	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
10	Adam Zampa	614	699

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Philip Salt	815	881
4	Tilak Varma	804	845
5	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
6	Jos Buttler	735	756
7	Pathum Nissanka	714	722
8	Tim Seifert	708	708
9	Babar Azam	688	900
10	Kusal Perera	676	786

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	723	723
2	Akeal Hosein	707	714
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Adil Rashid	705	747
5	Wanindu Hasaranga	700	809
6	Adam Zampa	694	746
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Maheesh Theekshana	666	686
9	Rashid Khan	664	828
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

Mangaluru bandh passes off peacefully

BJP leaders who visited the coastal city demand an NIA probe into Suhas Shetty's murder

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The bandh called by Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) protesting the killing of murder-accused Suhas Shetty in the hands of a group of people at Bajpe here on Thursday passed off peacefully except for a couple of random attacks on people on Friday.

The 30-year-old Shetty, a former member of Bajrang Dal Go Raksha Division, was hacked to death by six persons in front of a row of shops in Kinnipadavu in Bajpe on Thursday. Shetty was the main accused in the murder of Mohammed Fazil in Surathkal on July 28, 2022.

Fazil's murder was two days after murder of BJP leader Praveen Nettaru in Sullia.

Buses, private as well as KSRTC and city as well as long-distance, remained off the roads. Attendance was thin in offices, government as well as private and establishments as large number of employees depended on bus services for their regular commute. Hundreds of students remained stranded midway on the way to their institutions.

A large number of police personnel deployed at the mortuary of a private hospital in Mangaluru where the body of Suhas Shetty, a murder accused, was kept. H.S. MANJUNATH

Private buses parked at a terminal during the bandh in Mangaluru on Friday. H.S. MANJUNATH

Prohibitory orders

Deputy Commissioner M.P. Mullai Muhilan issued orders under Section 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Samita prohibiting movement of people in groups from May 2 to 6 a.m. of May 5 in view of the tense situation prevailing in the district.

Mangaluru City Police Commissioner Anupam Agrawal issued similar orders for the City Commissionerate till 6 a.m. of May 6. Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) R. Hithendra arrived in Mangaluru on Friday morning to review security arrangements. Additional security personnel are deployed across the city and the district.

Relief sought

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has demanded a National Investigation Agency (NIA) probe into the killing and adequate compensation to the family of the deceased.

Stating that the BJP would pay ₹25 lakh to Shetty's family, Karnataka BJP unit president B.Y. Vijayendra urged the government to compensate the family for the untimely death. Speaking to reporters after paying last respects to Shetty at his native village Karinja in Bantwal taluk before the cremation, Mr. Vijayendra claimed the murder appeared to be pre-planned.

He alleged that Hindu leaders were being murdered continuously after the Siddaramaiah government assumed office. The BJP would hold a State-wide protest condemning such attacks, he said. Dakshina Kannada MP Capt. Brijesh Chowta in a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah demanded an NIA probe.

Earlier, Shetty's body was shifted from the hospital in Mangaluru to Karinja by an ambulance. En route, people had gathered to pay last respects to the slain former Bajrang Dal activist.

Four special teams formed: Parameshwara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Home Minister G. Parameshwara said the government will not spare anyone involved in the murder of Suhas Shetty in Dakshina Kannada district on Thursday night. "We have already formed four special teams and whoever is responsible for the murder will soon be apprehended and brought to book. Whoever it is, whichever party they may belong to, we will not spare them," he said.

He further said that while Dakshina Kannada district and Mangaluru city were slowly returning to normalcy, the recent case of mob lynching and now the murder had disrupted this.

"I appeal to the people of Dakshina Kannada to maintain peace. We will ensure such incidents are not repeated. I have already deputed our ADGP (Law and Order) to Mangaluru. We have also deployed more force to ensure peace in the district," he said.

Responding to allegations by Leader of Opposition R. Ashok and other BJP leaders that 'Hindu activists' were not safe under the Congress regime, Dr. Parameshwara hit back saying such analysis was politically motivated. "Aren't we in Congress also Hindus," he asked.

Three 'revenge attacks' reported in coastal region

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A labourer waiting for a bus at Kannur near Adyar on his way to head-loading work in Kallapu and a fish vendor in Kuntikana were attacked by separate groups on Friday in Mangaluru. Another attack was reported from at Athrady near Manipal, in Udupi district, where two persons made an attempt on the life of an autorickshaw driver. All three were allegedly retaliatory attacks that followed the murder of 30-year-old Suhas Shetty at Bajpe near Mangaluru.

In the first case, Naushad, 38, had left the house near Kannur Masjid around 3.30 a.m. to catch a vehicle to the city and then reach a private wholesale market in Kallapu for head-loading work. On his way, he was attacked by three persons with a sharp weapon. He managed to take shelter in a neighbour's house, who admitted him in a hospital where he is under treatment in the ICU.

Second attack

In another case, a woman raised an alarm to thwart an attack on a fish vendor in Kuntikana in Mangaluru. Lukman, a resident of Thokkottu, who is undergoing treatment at a private hospital, told reporters that he had come to Kuntikana on his two-wheeler on Friday morning and was waiting for customers.

Around five persons arrived in a car and parked near his two-wheeler. Sensing danger, Lukman started to run. The assailants chased him and as they were attempting to bludgeon him, a woman raised an alarm causing them to flee. The woman then called the police and arranged to get him admitted in a nearby hospital, Lukman told reporters.

Autorickshaw driver

In the third case at Athrady, an attempt was made on the life of autorickshaw driver Aboobacker by two persons.

The Hiriyadka police have arrested Sandesh, 31, and Sushant, 32, both residents of Hiriyadka in Udupi district, in connection with the attempt. The attack occured when Aboobaker was going to his friend Dinesh's house around 11.30 a.m. The two accused followed the autorickshaw on motorcycle and attacked him, but he managed to escape.

In a video statement, Superintendent of Police K. Arun said the arrested persons told the police that the attempt on the life of the autorickshaw driver was to seek revenge for the murder of Suhas Shetty. Both have faced criminal cases earlier, he added.

BBMP reports 68 fallen trees as rains continue in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rains continued in the city on Friday, leading to widespread incidents of trees and branches falling. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) reported 68 cases of tree fall and 93 instances of branches collapsing across the city.

On Vanivilas Road, a tree fell on an electric wire, sparking panic among residents and causing traffic congestion.

BBMP officials said Bescom quickly cut off the power supply to prevent accidents, while forest, police, and traffic officials reached the spot to clear the debris and manage traffic. The situation was brought under control after the tree was removed.

In the South Zone, two cars were damaged owing to falling trees, while another was damaged in the Dasarahalli Zone. No injuries were reported, according to BBMP's control room. BBMP Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao visited the civic body's control room and the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) on Friday evening. He reviewed the situation and issued directions to all zonal commissioners and officials to take precautionary measures and respond swiftly to citizen complaints.

According to a BBMP press release, Mr. Rao instructed Forest Department officials to promptly clear fallen trees and broken branches brought down by strong winds. He also directed that stagnant water on roads be efficiently drained into side drains to prevent further disruptions. BBMP has urged citizens facing any rain-related problems to call its helpline number 1533 for assistance.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department reported 6.1 mm of rainfall at its Bengaluru City station and 6.4 mm at the HAL station till 8.30 p.m. on Friday.

Traffic snarls were reported across several parts of Bengaluru, especially along Bannerghatta Road, M.G. Road, Hosur Road, Goraguntepalya, Mysuru Road, Tumakuru Road, Old Madras Road, and other key stretches in the city.

Trees transplanted in Mysuru

Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Four fully grown trees along the Kukkarahalli lake embankment which were uprooted due to heavy rains and gale that lashed Mysuru on Wednesday night, were transplanted on Friday. It was the initiative of the Action Committee for Environmental Conservation.

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Directorate of Minorities
No.16C, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan, Miller Tank Bed Road, Vasanthnagara, Bengaluru - 560 052.
Website: www.dom.karnataka.gov.in
e-mail: directorgokdom@gmail.com Helpline: 8277799990

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಅ.ಸಂ. ನಿ/ಶಿ.ವಿ/ಪ.ಪೂ/೩ೆಆರ್–30/2025–26 **Date: 02.05.2025**

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for free admissions to first year Pre- University course in Minority Morarji Desai Residential Pre - University Colleges/Integrated (Upgraded) in Minority Morarji Desai Residential Pre - University/ Pre - University Colleges/ Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Residential Pre University/ Pre - University Colleges / Government Muslim Residential Pre - University/ Pre University Colleges and Upgraded Moulana Azad Model Pre- University running under the Directorate of Minorities for the year 2025-26.

Applications for first year Pre- University Course for the academic year 2025-26 can be submitted online in the official Portal from 03.05.2025 to 17.05.2025

Students who have passed SSLC/ Equivalent exam and belonging to Minority communities viz., Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis and Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Class are eligible to apply for free admission to first year Pre- University Course for the academic year 2025-26.

ONLINE APPLICATION

Free online submission of applications.
Website https://sevasindhuservices.karnataka.gov.in

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION

1. Students should belong to Minority Communities viz., Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis and Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Class.
2. Students should have passes SSLC/ Equivalent exam.
3. Student should be a domicile of Karnataka State.
4. Total family income should not be more than 2.50 Lakhs.
5. 4% seats have been reserved for specially abled students.
6. 75% are reserved for students belonging to Minority communities viz., Muslims, Christians , Sikhs, Jains , Buddhists, Parsis, 25% seats are reserved for students belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Class.

Instructions:- Parents/Students can visit Department Website (https://dom.karnataka.gov.in) for detail Notification of Admission and contact respective Minority District Offrce, Taluk Minority Information Office , College Principal or Minority Welfare Department Helpline Number 8277799990 for further information.

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/435/25-26

Is India finally on the verge of glimpsing its first sub-10-second man?

With six of the seven fastest athletes in the country's all-time 100m list currently active, this is Indian sprinting's most exciting period. They are pushing each other towards a historic moment — but they need improved administrative support and the ideal environment to realise it

Stan Rayan

Manikanta Hoblidhar played volleyball, kabaddi and handball to a high standard at school. But once he had a taste of athletics at 17, there was no looking back.

The 23-year-old is currently one of the country's fastest men, hungry to regain his 100m National record which he had surrendered to Gurindervir Singh (10.20s) by two hundredths of a second (10.22) at the Indian Grand Prix in Bengaluru a few weeks ago.

Manikanta clearly wants to stand out in the crowd.

"I'm the only one, the best, the strongest. My aim is to do 10.10s this year," said Manikanta, who took the 100m bronze at the recent National Federation Athletics Championships in Kochi. He also had the championships' fastest time, having topped the semifinals with 10.25s.

With six of the seven fastest men in the country's all-time 100m list currently in action, this is Indian sprinting's most exciting period.

> We will have our first sub-10 man this year or next year. And I feel I will be doing the 9.99s... I'm the only one, the best, the strongest
>
> **MANIKANTA HOBLIDHAR**

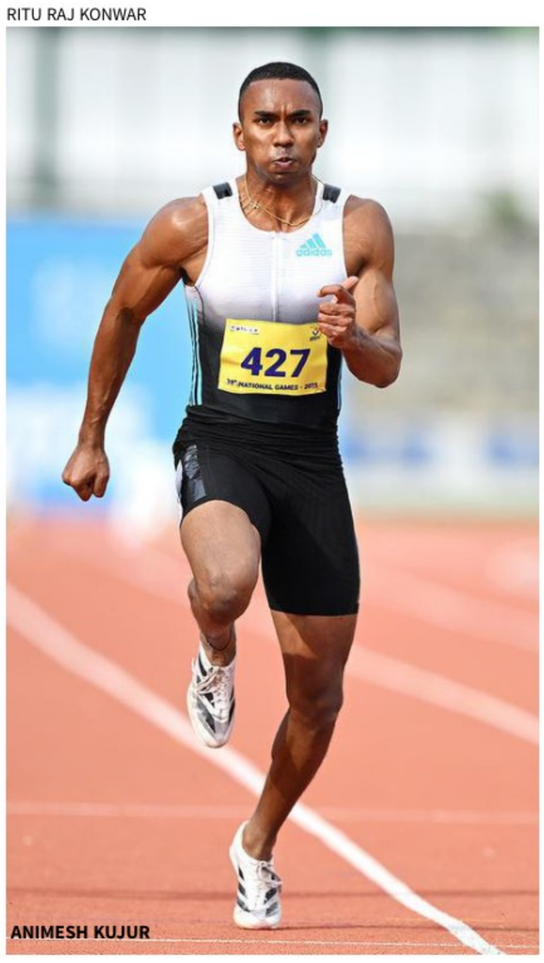
MURALI KUMAR K

GURINDERVIR SINGH

SUDHAKARA JAIN

MANIKANTA HOBLIDHAR

RITU RAJ KONWAR



ANIMESH KUJUR

The big question

That brings up the big question: Is India close to having its first sub-10s man?

"I expect that next year," said Radhakrishnan Nair, the National Chief Coach.

Martin Owens, head coach at the Reliance Foundation Odisha High Performance Centre, was more cautious.

"Sub-10 is big, it will happen. Next year might be a little bit early, but you never know, it might even this year. But never make a prediction," said the Englishman. "I would be surprised if the 100m National record doesn't go again this year."

And the athletes appear ready.

"We will have our first sub-10 man this year or next year. It could come by the time of this year's Open Nationals. And I feel I will be doing the 9.99s in India," said Manikanta.

Animesh Kujur, who broke the 200m National record in Kochi, fancies his sub-10 chances, too.

"It'll be me only, I'm the best," said Owens' trainee Kujur, the sixth fastest Indian ever (10.27). "I'm working hard for that. Whenever it is to happen, it will happen."

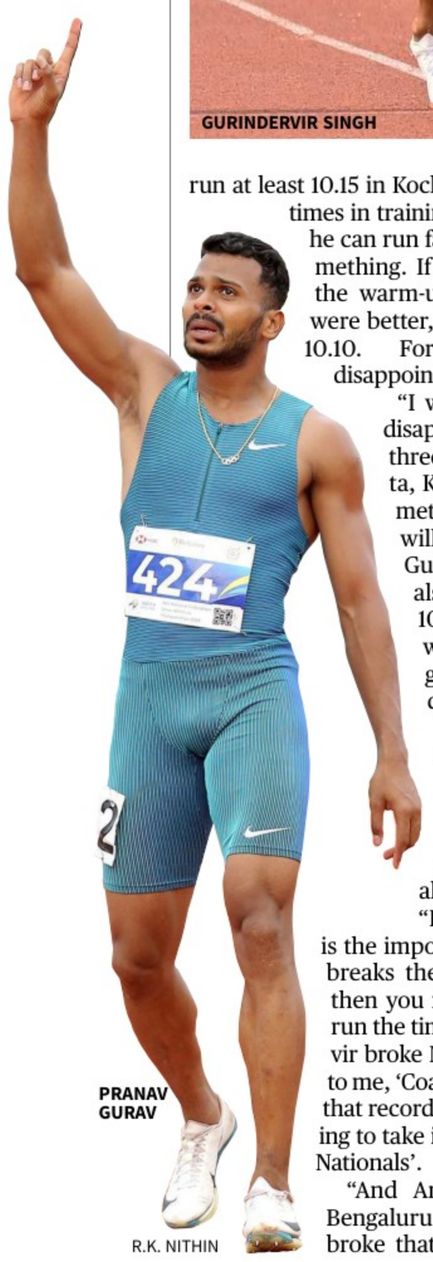
James Hillier, the Reliance Foundation athletics director who coaches Gurindervir and Manikanta, is impressed with the current scene.

"What you're having now is a sort of cluster effect, with the boys pushing each other and I think the biggest thing is the mindset. The mindset is slowly changing," he said.

"When I first came to India, 10.5s would win the Nationals. And when someone ran 10.4, everyone would go crazy. People are starting to run 10.2 and it's becoming more normal now, 10.3 is normal too, but 10.4 is not even considered that fast anymore."

Hillier believes things will move step by step.

"I think you'll see multiple athletes comfortably running sub-10.20. I expected Manikanta to run at least 10.15 in Kochi. He has been running times in training that signal to me that he can run faster than 10.1... 10.0-something. If the track was faster, if the warm-up area and conditions were better, he would have clocked 10.10. For me, 10.25 was disappointing.



PRANAV GURAV

R.K. NITHIN

"I would be mortified and disappointed if these guys, all three [Gurindervir, Manikanta, Kujur], don't run 10.1-something this year. And they will probably pull Pranav Gurav [Federation Nationals 100m champion with 10.27s] to those times as well. You could have four guys under 10.10. And don't discount Amlan [Borgohain] either... he's flying in training."

Stronger together

Hillier feels the sprinters now need to move ahead together.

"For me, the second guy is the important one. The first guy breaks the time, that's great but then you need the second guy to run the time. As soon as Gurindervir broke Mani's record, Mani said to me, 'Coach, he's going to borrow that record for three weeks, I'm going to take it back in the Federation Nationals'.

"And Animesh wasn't in that Bengaluru race. So, when they broke that record, suddenly Animesh got excited... and he broke the 200m record [in Kochi].

"They motivate each other. They all want to be the top dog...so the minute someone does that time, they are like, 'If you can do it, I can do it faster'."

Every sprinter in the group is unique.

"I don't know much about Pranav Gurav but he's got a good head on him, he's a good competitor. Gurindervir is a very powerful guy, he's got a very good start, I'm just working on some postural things, he doesn't hold his posture as well as I want, so once he fixes that, he's going to run a lot faster," said Hillier.

"Animesh is not a very good starter but a very good finisher. He's a 200m specialist but obviously he can run a good 100. Amlan is very experienced but Manikanta is the one with the leg speed, it's phenomenal. He's the guy with the real speed."

Who is likely to hit sub-10 first?

"It's difficult to say that. I wouldn't want to do that because I coach most of them...I'd be happy if anyone did that, even if it is someone I don't coach. For me, it's about the event moving forward," said Hillier. "I want to see people who say that Indians can't sprint eat their words because I believe Indians can sprint."

While the sprinters have been raising the bar, there is much disappointment that the Athletics Federation of India did not include Manikanta in the 100m for this month-end's Asian Championships in South Korea despite the sprinter achieving the AFI's qualification standard (10.25s) twice, in Bengaluru and Kochi.

"Had he finished first or second, he would have been considered," explained Radhakrishnan, who thinks Pranav Gurav could be the first Indian to go sub-10.

Hillier feels the sprinters deserve more support. "It's very frustrating, disappointing, I don't know why the federation isn't supporting these boys as much as we would like. We weren't aware that the policy was the first to pass the post gets in, that was never communicated. Mani is absolutely heartbroken," he said.

> It'll be me only, I'm the best. I'm working hard for that. Whenever it is to happen, it will happen
>
> **ANIMESH KUJUR**

"It is harsh. I respect the tough standards, it is good, but if you have tough standards, then you got to give us good conditions, good tracks and good competitions to race."

Unlocking the next level

For India to go under 10s, ideal conditions must be offered.

"To go to the next level, they need to compete overseas... competitions where it's set up to run fast. A Mondo track, proper warm-up area and run at the right time of the day with good winds," said Hillier.

"We need to find where the three fastest tracks in India are and put sprint meets on them. Chennai and Bengaluru have good tracks. Let's bring overseas athletes here if we want to do it in India.

"And let's not run into headwinds. If there's a headwind, let's do it on the back straight, that's how they do it in America. Let's create the environment for these guys to run under 10s."

With the sprinters moving at such a promising pace, clearly it's time to move mountains to help them.

GAME THEORY

Top shot-stoppers in LaLiga 2024-25

We take a look at how often goalkeepers in Spain's top flight have saved shots on target and kept clean sheets so far this season

UNAI SIMON

THIBAUT COURTOIS

JAN OBLAK

JOAN GARCIA

Goalkeeper	Club	Games	Shots on target faced	Saves	Save%	Clean sheets	Clean sheet %
Unai Simon	Athletic Club	16	51	39	78.4	6	37.5
Thibaut Courtois	Real Madrid	27	87	66	78.2	11	40.7
Jan Oblak	Atletico Madrid	32	101	76	78.2	13	40.6
Joan García	Espanyol	33	166	122	77.1	7	21.2
Luiz Reis Jr.	Villarreal	13	47	33	76.6	3	25
Julen Agirrezabala	Athletic Club	14	34	24	76.5	5	35.7
David Soria	Getafe	33	101	70	76.2	9	27.3
Sergio Herrera	Osasuna	32	156	111	74.4	6	18.8
Augusto Batalla	Rayo Vallecano	28	119	82	73.1	6	21.4
Alex Remiro	Real Sociedad	32	115	78	73	12	37.5
Rui Silva	Betis	15	54	37	72.2	4	26.7
Marko Dmitrovic	Leganes	27	125	85	72	8	29.6
Antonio Sivera	Alaves	27	98	62	71.4	5	18.5
Jasper Cillessen	Las Palmas	27	128	85	70.3	3	11.1
Orjan Nyland	Sevilla	26	96	64	69.8	6	23.1
Dominik Greif	Mallorca	27	91	62	69.2	6	22.2
Inaki Pena	Barcelona	15	52	34	69.2	3	21.4
Diego Conde	Villarreal	21	88	58	68.2	2	9.5
Wojciech Szczesny	Barcelona	13	27	18	66.7	7	53.8
Giorgi Mamardashvili	Valencia	29	117	75	65.8	7	24.1
Paulo Gazzaniga	Girona	33	133	81	63.9	6	18.2
Adrian	Betis	14	47	29	63.8	3	21.4
Vicente Guaita	Celta Vigo	29	104	64	63.5	7	24.1
Karl Hein	Valladolid	28	148	86	59.5	5	17.9

SOURCE: FBREF.COM

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

So fly, so cool

There are several ways of getting around on snow — and many of them afford enjoyment — but the snowboard, especially under expert feet, offers a unique uninhibited experience.

The snowboard cross event, also known as the boardercross, accentuates this aspect of this mode of gliding on snow, with competitors racing down a purpose-built course.

Such courses are usually narrow, consisting of cambered turns, jumps, berms, rollers, drops, and steep and flat sections, which challenge the riders' ability to marry control and speed.

To get a better sense of what the event looks like, think of it as motocross on snow. The typically used format for competition is a time trial, followed by a knockout tournament.

As you can see in this photograph from the FIS Snowboard, Freestyle and Freeski World Championships in St. Moritz, Switzerland, earlier this year, competitors race in close proximity. With the jumps, twists and turns involved, collisions aren't uncommon.

Therefore, tight clothing, which reduces the risk of entanglement, and protective equipment are a must.

April showers reduce electricity demand in State

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Thanks to the mango showers, the electricity demand in Karnataka was less than anticipated in April. According to data provided by the Energy Department, the peak demand in the month was 17,330 megawatts (MW) recorded on April 2.

Earlier this year, Energy Minister K.J. George had said that the electricity demand this summer season was likely to go beyond 18,500 MW to 19,000 MW. This came after the peak demand in February and March touched an unprecedented 18,350 MW and 18,395 MW respectively. Going by the current trends after the showers, officials say that it is unlikely that those numbers will be breached in the remaining weeks of summer.

While the electricity demand in April 2024 hovered between 16,000 - 16,900 MW, this year, with the exception of the first week, the demand was between 14,000 MW to 15,500 MW on most days. "Usually, March and April are the more difficult months for us as the demand goes up. But this year, due to scattered rains across the State, the demand did not go up as much as we thought it would," said Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department.

Peak demand in Karnataka over the last three months
- February – 18,350 MW
- March – 18,395 MW
- April – 17,330 MW

Peak demand in Bescom region in April 2024 and April 2025
- April 2024 – 8,381 MW
- April 2025 – 8,233 MW

To manage the expected demand, the Energy Department had arrangements with states like Punjab and Uttar Pradesh to procure power on an exchange basis. With the unexpected fall in demand, the department plans to sell the excess power at higher rates.

"While we expect some rainfall in May, we might also face a dry spell as the weather remains unpredictable. Thus, we will keep some power as a cushion in case the demand goes up and maybe take a judicious call to sell the excess power in the open market. May and June are the months when power demand reaches its peak in the northern part of the country. Hence, we might be able to sell power. But we will ensure that there is enough power for the State even if we see drier days," Mr. Gupta explained.

The peak demand in the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) region was less than over 100 MW in April when compared to the previous year. While the peak demand in April 2024 was 8,381 MW (recorded on April 30), in 2025, it was 8,233 MW (recorded on April 8).

SESHADRIPURAM INSTITUTIONS
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Prof. R. V. Manjunath, Principal, Tel: 22955358. website: spucmain.ac.in
COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM COMPOSITE PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
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COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560 064.
Prof. T. Doddegowda, Principal, Tel: 22955372. website: www.scpuc.ac.in
COMMERCE: MSBA / MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM INDEPENDENT PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
18, 2nd Main, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru-560 060,
Dr. Manjunath R. Principal, Tel: 22955377. website: www.spuc.ac.in
COMMERCE: MEBA / SEBA / CEBA | SCIENCE: PCMB / PCME / PCMCs

SESHADRIPURAM EVENING PRE-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
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COMMERCE: HEBA / CEBA

N. R. Pandith Aradhya, President
Dr. Wooday P. Krishna, Honorary General Secretary

Rangapravesha

Under the guidance of
Guru Vidushi Bhargavi M. Prakash
of Arohana Nrithyalaya,
Kumari Nayana Bhat
will be presenting her
Rangapravesha (Arangetram).
On May 4, 2025, 10:00 am Morning,
at A.D.A. Rangamandira, JC road Bengaluru
We extend our heartfelt invitation to you
all to grace the occasion and bless her

New BEL Director (R&D) takes charge

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hari Kumar R. has taken charge as Director (R&D) of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). He was serving as General Manager (Technology Planning) prior to being elevated to the Board.

Mr. Hari Kumar joined BEL on May 1, 1989, as a Probationary Engineer after completing his B. Tech. (Electronics & Communication) from the College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

In a career spanning over 35 years, he has primarily been in D&E, supporting manufacturing activities at BEL with high-quality designs and engineering documentation.

Dance festival

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Shristi Center of Performing Arts and Institute of Dance Therapy, in collaboration with Rotary District 3191, will host the International Dance Day and Mayarao Memorial Dance Festival on May 5 and 6.

Bengaluru Habba, IIFA to be held in December or January

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Habba and the International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) will be held in Bengaluru in December 2025 or January 2026, announced Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday.

After holding a meeting with the representatives of Bengaluru Habba and IIFA, Mr. Shivakumar said, "We discussed with the organisers about conducting Bengaluru Habba and IIFA awards ceremony in Bengaluru in December or January. We would like to highlight Bengaluru's culture with this festival."

The Minister said he had asked the organisers to hold the events in those months as Dasara celebrations would be on in the State in October.

D.K. Shivakumar

He added, "The IIFA event also had a fashion show in the Telangana edition, but we will not include that here. Over the last few years, Sandalwood has reached bigger heights than Bollywood. We would like to support the industry by hosting such events."

"This is a good opportunity to showcase our culture to international guests. The organisers were of the opinion that Bengaluru is the best location for such events apart from Mumbai," he said.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAY. 03			
RISE	05:58	SET	18:35
RISE	11:09	SET	00:00
SUNDAY, MAY. 04			
RISE	05:58	SET	18:35
RISE	12:06	SET	00:24
MONDAY, MAY. 05			
RISE	05:57	SET	18:35
RISE	12:59	SET	01:09

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	26
Mysuru	34	22
Bengaluru	33	21

Bengaluru Today
33°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be warm. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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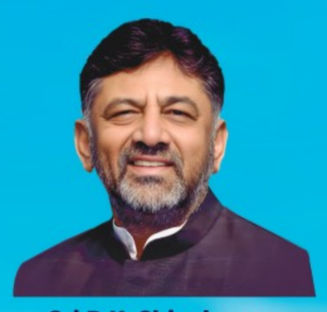
Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister


Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA | GANDHI BHARAT

District Administration & Zilla Panchayat, Bengaluru Urban District, Taluk Administration & Taluk Panchayat, Yelahanka, in Association with Social Welfare Department

Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare
Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa,
addressing the people on constitutional values.

Unveiling the 14 feet Bronze Statue of
Architect of Indian Constitution, Great Humanitarian, Bharat Ratna
Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Date: 03.05.2025, Saturday Time: 11.00 AM
Venue: Front of Mini Vidhana Soudha, Yelahanka

Inauguration by
Sri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister

Honoured Guests
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India

Sushree Shobha Karandlaje
Hon'ble Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises & Labour and Employment, Govt. of India

August Presence
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare

Presided by
Sri S.R. Vishwanath
Hon'ble MLA, Yelahanka Assembly Constituency

Chief Guests
Sri Krishna Byre Gowda
Hon'ble Minister for Revenue

Sri Suresh B.S.
Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development and Town Planning

Sri N.A. Haris
Hon'ble MLA, Shantinagar Assembly Constituency and Chairman, Bangalore Development Authority

Dr. K. Govindaraj
Hon'ble MLC and Political Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister

All members of Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha, MLAs, MLCs, Chairpersons of various Boards and Corporations and elected representatives of local bodies will participate in the programme as special invitees.

As enshrined in our Constitution - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

CMofKarnataka
https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

All are Cordially Invited

karnataka information

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

One killed, 6 injured as ambulance rams into vehicles, pedestrians

The driver lost control of the vehicle and hit two pushcarts, an autorickshaw, a scooter, and some pedestrians on BTS Road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A speeding ambulance driver rammed into two pushcarts, an autorickshaw, a scooter and some pedestrians on BTS Road, Wilson Garden, leaving one person dead and six others injured on Thursday morning.

In his complaint, one of the injured, Nagaraju, 57, said that he was with his friend Shivaram talking to his younger brother Ramesh, 49, who sells cut fruits on a pushcart on BTS Road on Thursday morning around 8.30 a.m., when an overspeeding ambulance rammed into them. It also hit two pushcarts, an autorickshaw, a scooter and several pedestrians, before coming to a halt.

The ambulance and autorickshaw impacted by the accident in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Wilson Garden Traffic Police said a total of seven persons were injured and were shifted to nearby hospitals. The ambulance driver Chiranjeevi, 30, was arrested from the spot.

While Nagaraju was lucky enough to escape with minor injuries, his brother suffered an internal chest injury and succumbed later in the day. Shivaram is critical and has been shifted to Victoria Hospital, he said in his complaint.

Four others - Somasundaram, 60, Praveen Kumar, 26, Brahmananda Kumar, 24 and Pavan, 25 - were also injured in the accident and they are being treated at various hospitals. All are said to be out of danger.

A senior traffic police official said that a probe was on to unearth why the ambulance driver lost control over the vehicle. A forensic examination of the vehicle will throw more light on the cause of the accident.

Three arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kumaraswamy Layout Police caught three drug peddlers red-handed while they were trying to sell ganja from a car In Kanakanagar and recovered 29.03 kg of ganja worth ₹7.5 lakh- from them.

The arrested have been identified as Afail Pasha, 32, a resident of Ilyas Nagar, Syed Imran, 24, a resident of Kanakanagar who was working as an autorickshaw driver, and Mohammed, 24, a wedding event manager and a resident of Kodichikkanahalli. The fourth person, presently still at large, used to source the ganja at a cheaper rate from Mysuru and give it to the trio, who used to sell it for a higher price in the city, sources said.

Efforts are on to track down the fourth member of the gang.

Senior citizen killed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A senior citizen from Maharashtra who had come to Bengaluru to visit her daughter was knocked down by a bike on the busy Ballari Road near MVIT Junction on Thursday evening.

Varsha Havanur, 70, had come to the city 15 days ago and was living with her daughter in an apartment near MVIT Junction. On Thursday evening, she went out for a walk with the househelp, visited a grocery store, bought some vegetables and was trying to cross the busy road, when a speeding bike knocked her down. She was rushed to a nearby hospital, but was declared 'brought dead'.

The Chikkajala Traffic Police appealed to pedestrians to only cross the road at designated spots using skywalks.

Hunt on for man who sexually assaulted woman at Marathahalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Whitefield Division Police have formed special teams to track down the accused who allegedly sexually assaulted a woman in Marathahalli. The only clue available is that the miscreant was wearing a purple T-shirt, sources said. Police are analysing footage from multiple CCTV cameras in and around the area to identify and track down the accused.

While the victim was walking near the entrance of a tech-park in Marathahalli at 11.40 p.m. on April 30, a miscreant on a bike approached her from behind, sexually assaulted her and sped away. The accused, who had gone ahead a short distance, took a U-turn, returned, assaulted her again and fled the scene, a source said.

The woman later lodged a complaint with the Marathahalli police, based on which a case was booked against the unidentified miscreant under Sections 74 (assault against a woman with the intent to outrage her modesty) and 78 (stalking) of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita.

Similar case

It may be recalled that a miscreant similarly sexually assaulted a woman walking home in a narrow bylane of BTM Layout on the night of April 3, which had gone viral, causing much outrage. The Suddaguntepalya police arrested a cab driver named Santosh Daniel from Kerala, 10 days later.

KIA handled 10.7 million passengers in the first quarter of 2025

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) handled domestic passenger traffic of 9.1 million and international passenger traffic of 1.6 million in the first quarter of 2025.

Fairfax India Holdings Corporation which holds a majority stake in Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) which operates KIA in its first quarter financial results for 2025 said that the airport handled domestic passenger traffic of 9.1 million and international passenger traffic of 1.6 million in the first quarter of 2025, representing year over year growth of 9.1% and 32.4%, respectively.

KIA is the busiest airport in South India. FILE PHOTO

"This growth has been supported by increased capacity from major domestic and international carriers, the launch of new routes, and the start of operations by new international airlines. Cargo volumes also grew 5.4% year over year, driven by continued growth in perishable exports and heightened demand for international air cargo as a result of ongoing geo-political events impacting the ocean freight industry," the interim report for the three months ended March 31, 2025, states.

It added that the commencement of domestic and international operations for the first phase of Terminal 2 during 2023 increased annual passenger capacity at the airport by approximately 25 million.

The report further said that during 2024, BIAL revised its airport infrastructure expansion plan pertaining to several projects to be undertaken between fiscal years 2025 and 2028, with a primary goal to enhance accessibility and optimize existing airport operations in preparation for anticipated growth in passenger and air traffic. "Such plans include new airport metro stations, upgrades to existing terminals, additional taxiways, tunnels, connectors and walkways. BIAL's plans to increase the overall capacity also remain under way, and include the construction of the second phase of Terminal 2 by fiscal year 2029 and a third terminal building by fiscal year 2034," it added.

KIA, which is the busiest airport in South India, and the third largest in the country has been given the status of a 'large airport' globally, in line with the Airport Council International's (>40 million passengers per annum) categorisation.

Directorate of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Punjab
Kheti Bhawan, Site No. 204 (Near Dara Studio), Phase-6, SAS Nagar (Mohali).

Public Notice

In order to curb the problem of spurious pesticides in the state of Punjab **QR Code Vendors** from across the country are invited to bring Track and Trace System with QR Code. Therefore, all Vendors can send their presentations to directoragriculturepunjab@gmail.com and jdaplantprotection@gmail.com from 07-05-2025 to 12-05-2025 till 05:00 PM.

Sd/
Director Agriculture &
Farmers Welfare, Punjab

2401/12/36/2023/44056

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2, AT BANGALORE
O.A. No. 654 of 2024
M/s. CANARA BANK
KORAMANGALA BR., BENGALURU-560034.
Rep. by its Br. Manager V/s. ....APPLICANT
Smt PADMA S.
& 2 OTHERS ....DEFENDANTS
SUMMONS TO THE DEFT. Nos. 1 to 3 ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DRT (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

Deft. No. 1: **Smt PADMA S.** Aged about 41 Years, W/o. Sri Girish C.T., @ # 276, 8th Cross, 3rd Phase, Manjunathnagar, Bangalore-560010.
Deft. No. 2: **Smt. SHANTHAMMA** Aged about 73 Years, W/o. Sri Sripada Jois,
Deft. No. 3: **Sri. NAGARAJ. S.** Aged about 46 Years, S/o. Sri Sripada Jois,
Both Deft. Nos. 2 & 3 are @ 39, 4th Cross, 40 feet Road, 2nd Phase, Manjunath Nagar, Bangalore-560010.

WHEREAS the above named Applicant has instituted an application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 63,99,938/=** alongwith court costs, together with current & future interest and other reliefs from the date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required to **show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on 16th day of June 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** either in person or duly instructed pleader as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this the 28th day of April 2025 at Bangalore.
BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
Sd/- (REGISTRAR)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-2 for Karnataka
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore-560 001.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR.
I.F.T.No:EE/PWD/VJP/PB/5054-SH-MDR-8443/2025-26/223
Dated:28.04.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement)

The- **Executive Engineer, Public Works Dept. Division, Vijayapur** Invites tenders from eligible tenderers (registered in Public Works Department) Total 6 works, As per standard bid documents KW-3&4 with 5054-SH and MDR Improvements, 8443 head of account costing of amount for Rs. 980.00 Lakhs and Rs. 50.00 Lakhs, the EMD amount of Rs.14,17,000.00 to Rs. 60,000.00 for the works. For above work G.S.T amount will be paid to the contractor separately and Increase in G.S.T shall not be paid in the extended period of Contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time. The calendar events of tenders, dates are fixed as follows (1) Pre-Bid Meeting for Contractors Date-03.05.2025 upto 11.00 AM (2) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders Date-14.05.2025 upto 4.30 PM. (3) Opening of Technical Bid Date-15.05.2025 at 4:31 PM. (4) Opening of Financial Bid Date-16.05.2025 at 4:30 PM. Clause-3 Conditions of Standard Bid Document may be seen in Departmental Website i.e "https://kppp.karnataka. gov.in" and for more information may contact help desk Bangalore (Phone No. +91 80 46010000, +91 80 68948777) or office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Vijayapur
DIPR/VIJAYAPURA/43/KSMCA/2025-26

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM-16/2025
Kindly refer this office advertised tender no. 50255120- RC opening date on 16/05/2025 published in advertised tender notice no EPS/70/2025. The amendment made is as under: **Tender No.:** 50255120-RC, **Description: From-** Existing **To-** Supply of Underground Railway jelly filled Telecom Quad cables of size 06 Quad having 0.9 mm conductor dia for Signaling and Telecom installation as per RDSO Specn.No. IRS:TC-30/2005 (Ver-I) (A mend. 1 to 5) RDSO Item ID: 3100047. Sub Item ID: 3100047001. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. Latest terms & condition and full information is available on website: **https://www.ireps.gov.in**
(SD.)
For Principal Chief Material Manager
WCR, Jabalpur
स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004
Bid No. PCE/BLW(ET)/Publish/2025-26/02 Date: 30.04.2025
E-TENDER
Dy. Chief Engineer, Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi on behalf of the President of India invites "Open" Tender through E-Tendering from the contractors. **Sr. No. 1. Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-002-25-26 **Name of Work:** Repairing/Replacement of GI/CI water supply pipe Line Under SSE/W/ET (From Tank No. 6 to Block No.122, Tank No. 6 to Block no. 159, Block No. 137 to 151 , 147 to 149, 168 to 171, 177 to 181, 187 to 191,219 to 221 & 234 to 235 etc), Replacement of old C.I. main water supply pipe lines in Bunglow and Qtr areas under SSE/W/CT & Replacement of CI/GI water supply pipe lines in WT under SSE/W/WT. **Tender Cost (Rs.):** Rs. 5,96,11,025.73 **Earnest Money (Rs.):** Rs. 4,48,100.00 **Time of Completion:** 12 Months **Closing Date of Tender:** 28/05/2025 at 15:00 PM **Date of Opening of Tender:** 28/05/2025 at 15:30 PM **Sr. No. 2. Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-003-25-26 **Name of Work:** Provision of Four Nos. Tube well (3 Nos. As Standby of Tube Well No. 2,6 & 11 and One No. in Golf Course) in East & Central Colony, BLW, Varanasi & Provision of power supply and pumps for 04 Nos. Tube well (Stand by of tube well No. 2,6,11 & one no. in Golf Course) in East & Central Colony, BLW Varanasi. **Tender Cost (Rs.):** Rs. 2,44,82,398.06 **Earnest Money (Rs.):** Rs. 2,72,400.00 **Time of Completion:** 15 Months **Closing Date of Tender:** 28/05/2025 at 15:00 PM **Date of Opening of Tender:** 28/05/2025 at 15:30 PM **Special Notice:** To see the detailed terms & conditions of tender and for submission of tender, please visit - " **website: http:www.ireps.gov.in".**
PRO/BLW/C-02 Dy. Chief Engineer
/blwvaranasi" Website:- www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No: Y-E-29-2025-26-02
Dated : 25-04-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
(1) OHE modification for construction of 12 m FOB by GSU/MYS at Chamarajanagar. (2) OHE modification for construction of 12 m FOB by GSU/MYS at Hassan. (3) OHE modification for construction of 12 m FOB by GSU/MYS at Subrahmanya.	Rs. 61,61,804.66

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:30 Hrs on 16-05-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction,Mysuru
PUB/73/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. HE-02-2025-26
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	Provision of new HT 11 KV electric connection for the new 500 KVA substation at Vasco da Gama Station.	Rs. 17,47,592.04
2	Improvement to HT & LT distribution system under CLR Depot over Hubballi Division.	Rs. 41,42,756.73
3	Provision of enhanced safety requirements of electrical substations including civil and electrical works over Hubballi Station.	Rs. 77,00,225/-
4	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Schindler make lifts - 05 Nos at Belgaum Railway Station for a period of 05 years.	Rs. 27,21,710/-
5	Improvements / replacement of unserviceable AC charging point at sick lines of Hubballi, Vasco da Gama Stations over Hubballi Division.	Rs. 70,01,934.35

Last date for submission of bids: Up to 11:00 Hrs on 26-05-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General Hubballi
PUB/69/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clientMrs. N Lakshmi D/o Narayanappa propose to purchase the property being a portion of Survey No.59 of Chokkanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, measuring 7 Guntas from the owner M/S.Basera Commerical Pvt Ltd including their legal heirs.
Any person or persons having any claims/objections in respect of the Schedule Property for the proposed sale transaction, may lodge their claims/ objections with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, thereafter my clients shall proceed to complete the transaction on the basis that there are no claims/objections.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All piece and parcel of Immovable property of land bearing a Survey No 59 is situated in the Chokkanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk of measuring 7 guntas out of Acres is owned by M/s Basera Commerical PVT LTD
Somashekar A.N Advocate
Aasthi Law Chambers, Advocates & Legal Advisers, No.21/1, 1st Floor, Girls School Street (Badaganadu Sangha Road) Kumara Park West Bengaluru-560 020 Ph:9901073881

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(GATI SHAKTI UNIT / TIRUCHCHIRAPPALLI DIVISION)
E-TENDER NOTICE No. T-SG-36-I-5-2025-2026
Dated: 26.04.2025
The Chief Project Manager, Gati Shakti Unit, Tiruchchirappalli Division invites online tender on behalf of The President of India, for the following works up to 15.00 hrs on 19.05.2025

Item No.	Tender Notice No.	Name of the Work
1	T-SG-36-I-5-2025-2026	Relocation of Existing CCTV and Provision of Additional Cameras at VM, MV and TJ stations of TPJ division.

Item No.	Cash Value in Lakhs of ₹	Earnest Money Deposit Amt	Validity Offer	Closing Date and Time	Period of Completion in Months
1	₹ 88.77 Lakhs	₹ 1,77,600/-	60 Days	on 19.05.2025 at 15:00 Hrs	Six Months

If the date of opening of tenders happens to be a declared holiday at a later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.
The detailed Tender Notice, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to tender is issued can be accessed through **https://www.ireps.gov.in.**
GST will apply as per extent norms of GOI.
Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Gati Shakti Unit, Tiruchchirappalli - 620 001

Indian Railways
Research Designs & Standards Organisation
Lucknow-226011

Expression of Interest

Ministry of Railways, Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), Lucknow, India is interested for **"Empanelment for external laboratories for testing of fire retardancy properties of coach furnishing materials as per EN 45545-2 standards."** Firms interested in empanelment of the said item are requested to see the details on RDSO website www.rdso.indianrailways.gov.in at HOME PAGE under 'EOI' appearing in **RED**.

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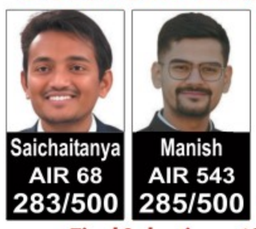
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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAJA KUMARA REDDY BHOOMI,** R/at #103, Vasudha Paradise, Coconut Garden Layout, 3rd Cross, Opp. Reliance Mart, Ayyappanagar, Kodigehalli Main Road, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru-560 036 do hereby declare that I have changed my son name from **DANUSH REDDY BANDAKINDAPALLI** to **DANUSH REDDY BHOOMI,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **DANUSH REDDY BHOOMI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 01-05-2025m, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. RAJENDRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAJA KUMARA REDDY BHOOMI,** R/at #103, Vasudha Paradise, Coconut Garden Layout, 3rd Cross, Opp. Reliance Mart, Ayyappanagar, Kodigehalli Main Road, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru-560 036 do hereby declare that I have changed my daughter name from **MEGHANA REDDY BANDAKINDAPALLI** to **MEGHANA REDDY BHOOMI,** henceforth she shall be known and called as **MEGHANA REDDY BHOOMI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 01-05-2025m, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. RAJENDRA** at Bangalore.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, GAYATHRI V S, D/o Nazima, aged about 25 years, R/at No.22, a 1st Cross, P and T Colony, Venkateshhpuram, Bengaluru North, Arabic College, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560045, have changed my name to Aayath Fathima, vide affidavit dated: 02.05.2025, before Notary Gangaraju B.N, B'luru

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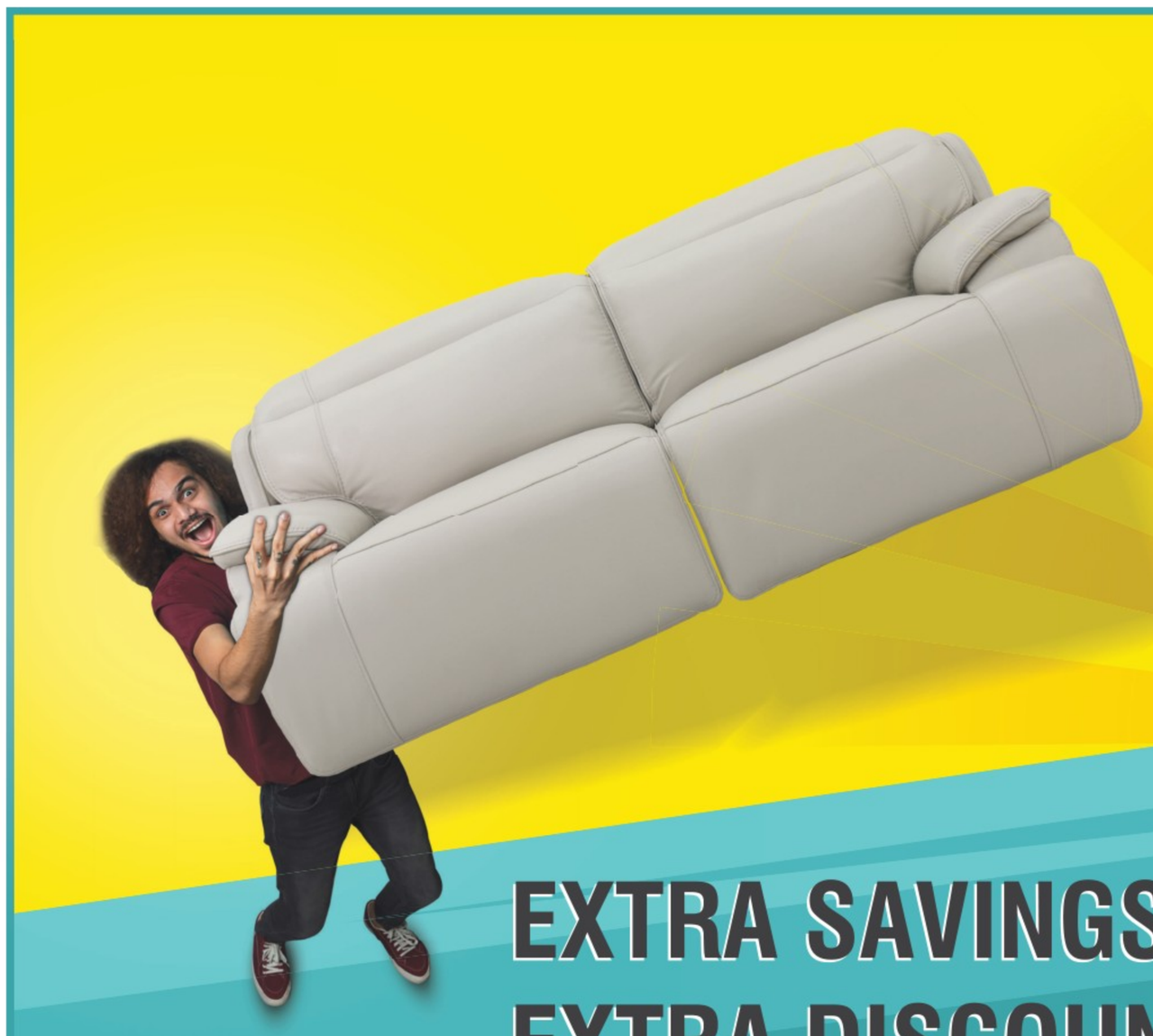

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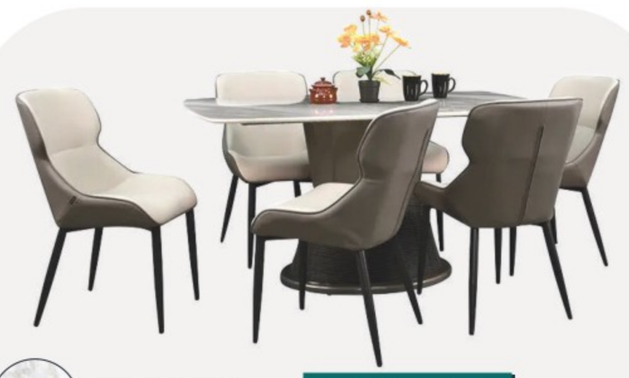

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A BG-BGE

Toppers all

SSLC results: 22 students secure the perfect score

Exam reforms initiated last year bore fruit; students adapted and performed well: Minister Madhu Bangarappa

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A total of 22 students, including two from government schools, have managed to get a perfect score (625/625) in the SSLC exam-1 this year and emerged as State toppers. Students from Bengaluru secured the most positions, with a total of seven scoring 100%.

Three of the 22 are from Shivamogga, two each from Tumakuru, Chitradurga, Bengaluru Rural, and Mysuru districts, and one each from Vijayapura, Mandya, Belagavi, Sirsi, Udupi, and Hassan.

The two government school students to get the perfect score are Roopa Chanagouda Patil from Government Composite PU College of Devalapur, Belagavi district, and Shagufta Anjum from Government Composite Urdu High School, Sirsi.

The other students are Akheelahmed Nadaf, Oxford English Medium High School, Vijayapura district; C. Bhavana, Neelagirishwara Vidyaniketana High School, Bengaluru Rural; Dhanalakshmi M., St. Yash Public High School, Bengaluru; Dhanush S., Marimallappa's High School, Mysuru; Dhruthi J., Sahukar S.K. Chikkanna Gowda English Medium High School, Mandya; Jahnavi S.N., Vijaya Bharathi Vidyalaya High School, Bengaluru; Madhusudhan Raju S., MES Kishore Kendra High School, Bengaluru North; Mohammed Mastoor Adil, Chethana Vidyamandira High School, Tumakuru; Moulya D. Raj and Nandan H.O., Rastriya Academy English Medium High School, Chitradurga; Namana K., Priyadarshini High School, Shivamogga; Namitha, Matha National English High School, Bengaluru South; Nithya M. Kulkarni, Sri Ramakrishna English Medium Residential High School, Shivamogga; Ranjitha A.C., Sri Chandrashekaranath Swamiji English Medium Rural High School, Bengaluru Rural; Sahishnu N., Sri Adichunchanagiri High School, Shivamogga; Swasthi Kamath, Karkala Jnanasudha English Medium High School, Udupi; Thanya R.N., KSVB High School, Mysuru; Utsav Patel, Vijaya School, Hassan; Yashwitha Reddy K.B., Chirec Public School, Madhugiri, and Yuktha S., Holy Child English High School, Bengaluru South.

Last year, two students had managed to get the perfect score. "Examination reform measures taken last year, including webcasting, have borne fruit this year. Students have adapted to the webcasting system, written the examination fearlessly, and have performed well. So, this time 22 people have got 100% marks in all subjects," said Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for School Education and Literacy.

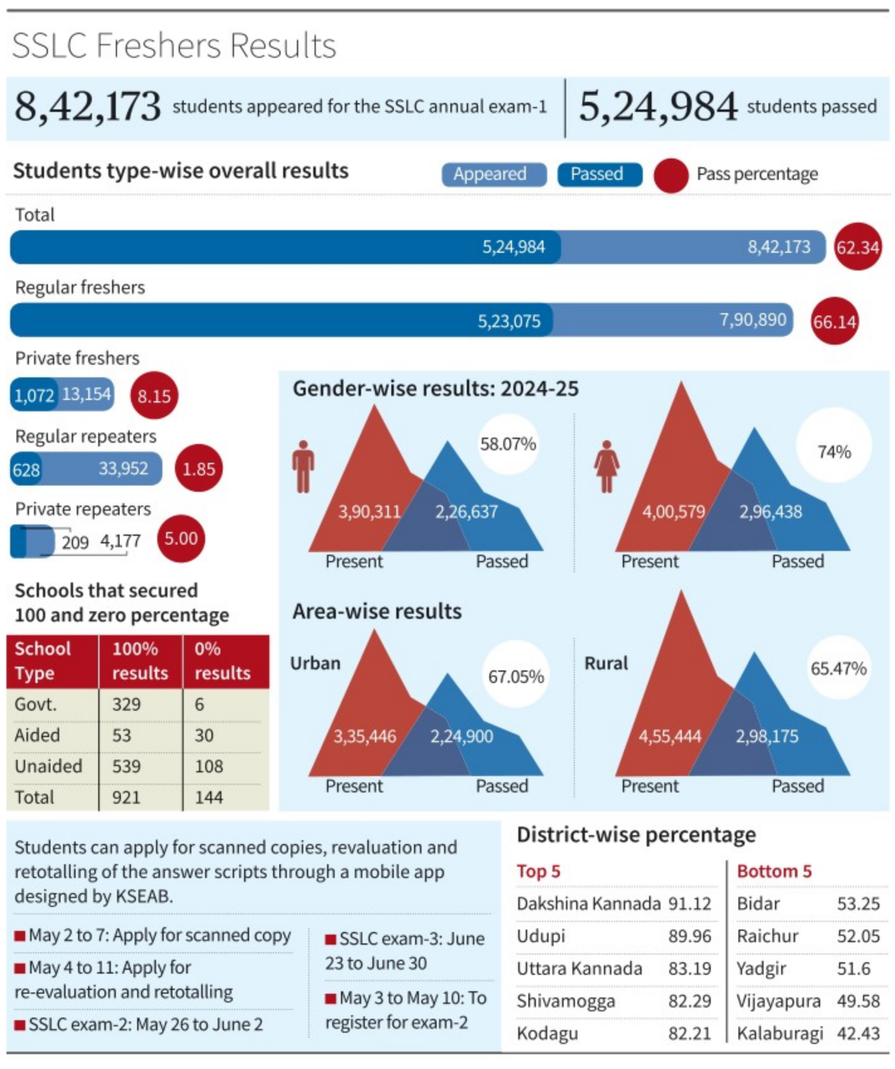
Dhanalakshmi, a daughter of a paan seller and student of St. Yash Public High School, Kempegowda Nagar, Magadi Main Road, has managed to secure 100% marks and wants to become a chartered accountant (CA).

"I am very grateful to my schoolteachers; they took classes for us from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. We would also have back-to-back revisions for all subjects. During exams, I experienced a lot of stress and had some health issues in the second semester, but I was able to face it because of my teachers and parents. For pre-university, I want to study Commerce because I want to become a CA," she added.

Jahnavi S., a daughter of a credit control manager in a private firm, said the reason behind her academic success is her focus and attention towards her subjects in class. She dedicated two to three hours a day for her studies on weekdays and five to six hours on weekends, and before the exam. She aspires to become a scientist.

A carpenter's son, Madhusudan Raju from MES Kishore Kendra High School, advised this: "Do not take a textbook very lightly. Textbook is everything. And if you want to clear the exam with distinction, you have to record the textbook every day and revise it six to seven times at least."

Namitha K. of Martha National English High School, Kalyannagar, plans to pursue Commerce and become a company secretary in hopes of carrying out the unfulfilled dreams of her mother, who cracked the foundation but unfortunately could not complete her course. Her preparation for the studies included enjoying the process of learning and understanding that went beyond textbook memorisation. As she said, "I enjoyed studying, and I never learnt concepts by-heart, always used to understand them."



RTE quota students excel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The first batch of students enrolled to schools under Right to Education (RTE) 2009, have done well in the SSLC examination-1 with an overall pass percentage of 75.57.

Of the total 25,453 RTE students who appeared for the exams, as many as 19,235 managed to clear them. Among these, 8,857 were boys and 10,378 were girls. The highest number of RTE students who appeared for the SSLC exams were from Bengaluru South and North districts at 2,164 and 1,769 respectively.

This was the first batch of RTE students who appeared for the board exams. In the first batch under the RTE quota, a total of 80,000 students were admitted to various private schools including CBSE and ICSE in 2012-13 as the State implemented the RTE Act.

Announcing the results, Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa revealed that five students who were enrolled under RTE quota secured 624 out of 625 and around 50 students under this category secured above 620.

Medium-wise result

English-medium students secured the highest pass percentage when compared with six other mediums, including Kannada, Urdu and Hindi, in which students appeared for the exam. The pass percentages were as follows: English 78.38%, Kannada 57.61%, Urdu 46.46%, Marathi 53.97%, Telugu 74.56%, Tamil 37.88%, and Hindi 53.72%.

Grade-wise result

This year, a total of 55,066 (10.53%) students secured 'A+' grade with 90 to 100%. 'A' grade (80 to 89%) has been secured by over 96,536 (18.46%) and 'B+' (70 to 79%) by 1,14,852 (21.96%), 'B' grade (60 to 69%) by 1,26,541 (24.19%), 'C+' (50 to 59%) scored by 1,09,762 (20.98%) and 'C' grade (35 to 49%) by 20,318 (3.88%) students .

Subject-wise scores

This year, 17,909 students secured out of out marks in third language, which is highest among all the subjects. This is followed by 9,573 in the first language, 7,974 in Social Science, 7,075 in the second language, 3,262 in Mathematics and 2,451 in Science.

Special students

During 2025 exams 4,553 special students appeared for the SSLC exams of which 2,633 managed to pass. This includes 514 visually impaired, 436 hearing impaired, 627 physically challenged, 260 mentally challenged.

No fee for exam-2 and 3

Minister Madhu Bangarappa has announced a complete fee waiver for SSLC annual exam-2 and 3 this year. "We announced fee waiver for II PUC exam-2 and 3 and the number of registration for exam-2 increased. In the same way, we have decided to waive off the fee for SSLC exam-2 and 3. So, all students who have failed and wish to improve their marks to take advantage of this opportunity and register for the examination-2 and 3," he said. He also said that, to improve the results in annual exam-2 and 3, special coaching will be conducted for students in all schools.

Parents hold party to cheer up son who failed

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

It was a cake-and-sweets party with a difference in one of the homes in Bagalkot. A student of Basaveshwara English medium high school in Bagalkot, Abhishek, got 200 marks out of 625 and could not clear any subject, but his parents decided to cheer him up rather than scold him.

They ordered cake and sweets to make him feel better and egg him on to do better next time.

The father of the student said his son had studied hard but he could not pass. This had indeed cheered him up, the family said.

"I will clear next time," Abhishek said, adding that he had difficulty remembering things due to a fire accident in his childhood.

From Page One

SSLC results up from last year by 8.34 percentage points

Following instructions from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, this year, KSEAB did not award grace marks except the one allowed as per the examination ordinance to promote those who had borderline marks.

Of the total 8,42,173 students who appeared for the exam, as many as 5,24,984 managed to clear it. This year, 75% of the total students who passed were in first class and distinction category.

"This time, the syllabus was completed in all schools by the end of December and revision was done from January. We conducted special classes and provided free electricity which helped schools to conduct special classes even late in the evening. The efforts of all zilla panchayath CEOs in this regard were commendable and they personally monitored the SSLC classes and several such measures helped us to get these results," said Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa.

"Last time, the results had gone down due to several examination reform measures. I would like to extend special thanks to the Chief Minister who insisted the department not to award any grace marks and to stress on classroom learning and teaching," he added.

When it comes to district-wise results for freshers, Dakshina Kannada topped the State by achieving 91.12% and replaced Udupi which was on top last year. Udupi stood second this year recording 89.96%, followed by Uttara Kannada (83.19%), Shivamogga (82-29%), and Kodagu (82-21%.)

Domestic help's daughter scores 91.84% in SSLC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hemavathi

Hemavathi, 16, from Doddalballapur, a student of Sparsha Trust, has scored 91.84% in the SSLC exam-1, overcoming several challenges. Her father passed away recently and her mother is a domestic help.

"My teacher, Sonia ma'am, connected me to Sparsha Trust," said Hemavathi, who has been receiving education and mentorship from the organisation for the past four years.

Hemavathi recalls not being able to read or write when she first joined Sparsha. "Despite personal hardships, she has remained focused and compassionate. She inspires everyone around her," said one of Hemavathi's mentors from Sparsha.

As she prepares to enter the next phase, Hemavathi stays grounded but hopeful. "I want to become a doctor so I can help those who are suffering," she said.

Two govt. school girl students shine

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/BELAGAVI

Two students studying in government schools managed to get 100% marks in the SSLC exam – one from Sirsi and the other from in Devalapur near Bailhongal.

Shagufta Anjum, a student of Government Composite Urdu High School at Sirsi, scored 625 out of 625. A native of Bihar, Shagufta has been studying at the government Urdu school for the past five years. Her father, Manjarul Anjum, is a moulvi who earlier served in Bihar, and mother, Sahira Banu, is a homemaker. Shagufta is the oldest of five children. She attributed her success to the coaching and encouragement from her teachers and parents, and hard work. She said the teachers organised special classes during Ramzan, which helped her a lot. She wants to become a doctor and wants to move to Bengaluru for her PUC.

Headmaster Anand S. Korawar said, "Shagufta was good in academics from the beginning. We were hoping that she would do well in SSLC." Some groups have extended support for her education.

Roopa Channagouda Patil of Government Composite Junior College in Devalapur, a Kannada medium student who has got 100% marks in all subjects, aspires to become a doctor. Before exams, she studied up to eight hours a day and helped her mother in domestic chores, Roopa said. Her father, Channagouda, is a farmer and her mother, Latha, a homemaker.

The central committee of Kannada organisations will felicitate Roopa in the Deputy Commissioner's office in Belagavi on Saturday.

Dakshina Kannada district tops State in SSLC exam after many years

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Dakshina Kannada district took the top position with 25326 (91.12%) of the 27795 students passing the SSLC-1 examination. The district climbed to the top position after many years.

Udupi district moved to the second position with 12215 (89.96) of the 13579 students passing the examination.

The district was ranked first in the SSLC-1 examination in 2024 with pass percentage of 94.

Among those who have passed in Dakshina Kannada, the highest number of students were from the Bantwal educational block (5375), followed by 5178 from Mangaluru North, 4944 from Mangaluru South, 4575 from Puttur, 3720 from Belthangady, 1811 from Moodbidri, and 1757 from the Sullia educational block.

A total of 13799 students, who passed, were from English medium, while 11,527 students were from Kannada medium.

A total of 251 specially abled children have also passed.

From Dakshina Kannada, 712 of the 716 students passed in Tulu third language paper.

Of them, 317 students have secured full 100 marks. All six students who chose Konkani as third language have also passed.

'Vijayebhava' programme

While lauding the untiring efforts of teachers in preparing students, Dakshina Kannada Deputy Director of Public Instruction Govind Madiwal credited the success of students to their involvement in the 'Vijayebhava' programme, conducted by the District Institute of Education and Training.

Under this programme, students solved five questions every day each on two topics for a period of 170 days, he said.

In Udupi

Of the 12215 students who passed from Udupi district, the highest number of students were from Udupi education block (2883), followed by 2530 from Kundapura, 2469 from Karkala, 2407 from Brahmavar and 1926 from Byndoor education block.

As many as 12,215 students who passed were regular students, 23 were private students, eight were regular repeaters, and five were private repeater students.

Of the total students who passed, 7,519 were from the English medium, while 4,696 were from the Kannada medium. As many as 9,680 students were from rural areas, while 2,535 were from urban areas.

A total of 5,572 students were from government schools, 4,264 from private schools, and 2,379 students were from aided schools.

A total of 51 schools, including 15 government schools, have recorded 100% result.

A total of 63 specially abled children have also cleared the SSLC-1 examination in Udupi district, an official release said.

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THE HINDU

Liberating heritage

Breathing new life into old or historic buildings can help rejuvenate derelict neighbourhoods

Durganand Balsavar

Conway House, St. George's School and Orphanage. S. THANTHONI

A walk through the medieval streets of Georgetown, Puducherry, or Karaikudi reveals a lost history, where abandoned houses and institutions, built over a hundred years ago, now stand in disrepair. A reimagination of heritage cities by planning authorities, in collaboration with civic society, could rejuvenate these derelict neighbourhoods.

While newfound mobility and technology resulted in mega-cities with metros and automobiles, the medieval town, at its core, was often abandoned or subjected to densities far greater than it could absorb. Recognising this predicament, the First Master Plan of Chennai moved the inner-city markets and transport hubs to Koyambedu to decongest GeorgeTown and Parrys Corner. But it was not impetus enough to revive its heritage precincts.

Alexander Tzonis and Liane Lefaivre – architectural theorists, authors and historians, known for their interdisciplinary approach towards design theory, history, and political critique, leaving a lasting impact on architectural pedagogy and practice – discuss this urban phenomenon in the context of globalisation: how rapid urban growth has been responsible for large-scale constructions at the cost of losing identity through the erasure of historic precincts.

Professor Lefaivre believes cities across climatic regions are beginning to look alike, resulting in a loss of climate-responsive and site-specific spatial identity.

Most often, heritage buildings give way to uniform, hermetically-sealed and air-conditioned constructions, which rarely respond to climate.

Sustainable architecture

However, in the face of adverse environmental conditions, cities across the world are recognising the value of heritage in a refreshingly new context. Medieval structures often reveal significant cultural and climatic features that hold lessons for responding to inclement weather patterns, whether urban heat or incessant monsoons.

Vernacular architecture, with its shade and natural ventilation elements, creates a cooler micro-climate.

For instance, the shaded *thinnai* – a semi-open transitional space – subdues the harsh effect of the sun. In the past, it facilitated a communication between the street and home, embodying a spirit of hospitality for visitors and travellers. These elements manifested the idea of close-knit urban communities and festivals.

Gove Building on Mount Road in Chennai has a Mercedes-Benz showroom. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Aspinwall building in Fort Kochi. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Alternative purposes

Metropolitan Development Authorities could evolve more appropriate heritage guidelines and regulations to revive heritage buildings for contemporary youth needs: vocational training, filmmaking, art, café-libraries, theater, science galleries, research, and scriptwriting workshops, and other educational and aspirational needs.

Homestays in heritage homes can provide housing to visiting scholars and artists.

The intent is to provide sustainable frameworks that are practical and recognise the economic context.

The UNESCO World Heritage Convention recognises that heritage precincts have historically been overlooked as sustainable architecture, despite their environmental, cultural, and economic contribution.

The 2030 Agenda by the United Nations recognises the role of heritage in sustainable development and its universal value.

A holistic programme of revival of heritage precincts – in this context, George Town, Triplicane, and other areas – provide a potential to rejuvenate urban life, while addressing urban heat and monsoons. Several nations have recognised the economic impetus, and are providing a sustained creative livelihood to craft communities and allow a social cohesion.

The intangible value of these precincts contributes to urban renewal and provides individual families a new lease of livelihood with support of the government and policies. One such example is the revival of heritage precincts in Rajasthan's towns. It has demonstrated resilience, addressing natural disasters, heatwaves, and other risks with minimal investment. Other examples below:

The writer is an architect, academician and the founder of Artes Roots Collaborative.

THE HINDU
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High Court dismisses Ravi's plea against FIR filed by Hebbalkar

MLC accused of using abusive word against the Minister; court says acts outraging the modesty of a woman inside the legislature cannot be protected under the parasol of legislator's privilege

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that that acts which erode the dignity of a woman or outrages her modesty cannot be protected under the parasol of legislator's privilege as criminal acts inside the Houses of Parliament or State legislature are not immune from prosecution, the High Court of Karnataka on Friday refused to interfere with a criminal case registered against BJP MLC C.T. Ravi for allegedly outraging the modesty of Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar by using an abusive word inside the Legislative Council last year.

"The alleged word spoken, if spoken, or gesture made, if made, against a woman, certainly outrages her modesty and it above all, can have no nexus to the functioning of the House or no relation to a transaction of the business of the House," the court observed while taking note of the derogatory word used by Mr. Ravi against Ms. Hebbalkar as was alleged in the complaint.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna delivered the verdict while dismissing the petition filed by Mr. Ravi. The criminal proceeding was initiated based on the First Information Report (FIR) registered against Mr. Ravi on the complaint lodged by Ms. Hebbalkar.

A December 19, 2024 photo of Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar and BJP member C.T. Ravi during a protest in the Legislative Council when the alleged incident occurred.

Sections invoked
The FIR was registered for an offence punishable under Sections 75 and 79 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which deal with sexual harassment and outraging the modesty of a woman by way of a gesture, a word, etc. The alleged incident occurred inside the Legislative Council in the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi on December 19, 2024.

Referring to the alleged words that the petitioner uttered against the complainant, the court said, "This undoubtedly forms the ingredient of both Sections 75 and 79 of the BNS. On whether such a word spoken is immune from any action, the unequivocal and emphatic answer is, a no," the court observed.

The case is related to the dignity or modesty of a woman and "allegedly calling a woman, a fellow legislator, with such a 'word' on the floor of the House, not only *prima facie* outrages her modesty, but sullies the sanctity of the House," the court said while rejecting arguments made on behalf of Mr. Ravi that allowing criminal proceedings for the words uttered inside the legislature Houses would open a pandora's box where every legislator would knock on the doors of constitutional courts alleging that fellow legislator has defamed him, insulted him or otherwise.

Need for investigation
However, the court made it clear that "factually, whether the petitioner has spoken or uttered the word... against the complainant or has used such gestures which would demean her dignity or outrage her modesty is till now a mystery, as it has to be investigated into".

Also, the court said that its observations made in the course of the order are only for the purpose of considering the case of the petitioner under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and these observations would not influence or bind the investigating agency or the trial courts. Meanwhile, the court also vacated its interim order, granted on January 30, staying the probe into the case.

On decorum and respect

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As an epilogue to the verdict while dismissing the petition filed by MLC C.T. Ravi, High Court judge Justice M. Nagaprasanna said, "The legislature is an exalted forum for deliberation, not a forum for personal vilification. While this court will always remain the sentinel of legislative autonomy, it cannot permit invocation of privilege to stymie the imperatives of justice. The legislature is not a sanctuary for defamation or gendered invective, [but] rather an institution where robust debate must be tempered with decorum and respect. I find neither in the alleged acts of the petitioner."

Shivanand Patil quits Assembly membership responding to Yatnal's challenge; Speaker rejects resignation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/BELAGAVI

Sugar, Textiles, and Agricultural Marketing Minister Shivanand Patil on Friday resigned from the membership of the Legislative Assembly, accepting a challenge from expelled BJP MLA and former Union Minister Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal. However, Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader rejected the resignation letter on the grounds that it was not submitted in the correct format.

Mr. Patil submitted the resignation letter to Mr. Khader with a rider. In his letter, Mr. Patil, who represents Basavana Bagevadi constituency in Vijayapura district, requested Mr. Khader to accept his resignation only if Mr. Yatnal too resigns from the membership of the Assembly and his resignation was accepted. Mr. Yatnal represents Vijayapura City Assembly constituency.

Minister Shivanand Patil submitting his resignation to Speaker U.T. Khader in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Background of case
Mr. Patil's resignation follows a recent protest held in Vijayapura city against Mr. Yatnal for his alleged derogatory remarks against Muslims.

Mr. Patil and another Congress MLA, Vijayanand Kashappanavar, who had participated in the protest, had strongly lashed out at Mr. Yatnal and challenged him to resign and contest a byelection. In response, Mr. Yatnal had challenged both Mr. Patil and Mr. Kashappanavar to resign from the Assembly and face him in their respective seats in the bypolls. Mr. Kashappanavar represents Hungund constituency.

"If they do not resign by next Friday (May 9), I would doubt their parentage," he said in Vijayapura on April 30. "They need not come to Vijayapura city to fight me. Let us all contest as Independents. I will defeat them on their home turf," he told reporters after Basava Jayanti celebrations in Vijayapura. Mr. Yatnal claimed that, unlike him, Mr. Patil and Mr. Kashappanavar are not mass leaders. He claimed to have won elections based on his charisma, and not party affiliation.

Mr. Patil, who accepted the challenge, met Mr. Khader on Friday and submitted his resignation.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Mr. Patil said, "Mr Yatnal has said that he will resign as an MLA and contest against me in the Basavana Bagevadi constituency. I have resigned accepting his challenge. Let him resign now."

However, Mr. Patil said he has not set any deadline for Mr. Yatnal to resign. His resignation has nothing to do with the Congress and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, he clarified. He tendered his resignation on his own, accepting the challenge from Mr. Yatnal, he reiterated. Mr. Kashappanavar is yet to respond to the challenge.

'Just drama'
Responding to the resignation, Mr. Yatnal called it just "drama". He said, "The Minister's resignation is nothing but a big drama. I will not resign until his resignation is accepted. A conditional resignation will never be accepted. Anyone with a little common sense knows this."

HC dismisses Bhavani Revanna's plea to defer trial in rape case against Prajwal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday dismissed a petition filed by Bhavani Revanna for deferring the trial in one of the four rape cases against her son Prajwal Revanna till he is given sufficient time to appointment a new advocate and certified copies of certain documents and orders passed by the trial court are provided to her.

Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty, who heard the petition, dismissed it stating that reasons for the dismissal would follow.

What petition said
She had complained in the petition that the judge of the special court of sessions for criminal cases against present and former MPs and MLAs had orally made certain adverse remarks against her son, due to which he had filed a plea for the change of the judge. Though the principal city civil and sessions judge appears to have rejected such a plea for the change of judge, a copy of the order is not given to her or Prajwal.

Ms. Bhavani also pointed out that the advocate representing her son retired from the case and the special court did not give sufficient time to him to appoint another advocate but has appointed an advocate from the legal services authority.

However, the advocate representing the CID opposed her plea stating that Prajwal should have filed the petition while also pointing out that the actions like advocate retiring from only one of the four rape cases is nothing but a tactic to delay the proceedings as the trial is set to commence with recording statement of the victim and other witnesses.

Takes charge

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

S.M. Ramanathan took over as Director (Engineering, R&D) at Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., on Thursday.

With a career spanning 37 years within BHEL, Mr. Ramanathan offers a deep well of experience across multiple functional domains, including Engineering, Design, Research and Development, Strategic Management, Commercial Operations, Materials Management, Maintenance, Production, and Field Engineering. His range of expertise also includes contributions in core financial operations.

Presiding officers' meet in Bengaluru in Sept.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader on Friday said a two-day all-India presiding officers' conference would be held in Bengaluru from September 8.

More than 500 delegates, including presiding officers of Parliament and legislatures of all States, would attend the conference.

He said Karnataka would be holding the event after 23 years. The last conference was held in Bihar.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 (Metro Rail Project), No. 14/3, 1st Floor, Aravindha Bhavana Building, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru-560001.
No.: KIADB/LAQ/(K-RIDE)/73/2025-26 Date: 21.04.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Under section 28(2) of KIAD Act 1966)
It is hereby given publication for the information of the public that the KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD. Bengaluru has proposed to acquire the following scheduled properties for the purpose of Corridor-4 of **Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited (K-RIDE).** The Preliminary Notification Under Section 28(1) in this behalf is issued vide Notification No: CI **147** SPQ **2025** Bangalore dated:**02-04-2025** by the Government of Karnataka and the same has already been published in the Karnataka Gazette dated: **08-04-2025**

All the absolute owners and interested persons in the Scheduled properties specified below shall file their OBJECTIONS IF ANY to the undersigned, Notice u/s 28(2) of KIAD Act, has already been served to the notified Khatedar/Anubhavdar, interested persons. As some of the property owners refused to receive the notice and address of some of the Khatedars are not available, notices could not be served. Hence, this notice is published in the Newspapers to provide opportunity to them.

Any contracts for the disposal of the said lands by sale. Mortgage, Assignment, Exchange or otherwise or any improvement made therein without prior permission of the competent authority, after the date of publication of this notification under the provisions of KIAD Act 1966 will be disregarded while assessing compensation for such parts of the said lands as may be finally acquired.

The map of the area comprised therein and the notification specifying the lands which is proposed to be acquired may be verified in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer, KIADB, (K-RIDE), Bengaluru during the office hours on all working days. Enquiry is fixed **on 07-05-2025 at 11.00 a.m. in** the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, K.I.A.D.B. **(K-RIDE),** No. 14/3, 1st Floor, Aravinda Bhavana Building, Bengaluru. Interested persons are hereby requested to be present with relevant documents. Failing which, it will be considered that there is no objection from your side and further action will be taken in accordance with law.

Schedule

Sl. No.	I.D. No.	Property Owner	L.A/CT Sy. No.	Total Extent	Area acquired (sq.Mtr.)
Enquiry Date: 07.05.2025					Time: 11.00 a.m.
Village : yashwanthapura Hobli: Kasaba Taluk: Bengaluru North					District: Bengaluru Urban
1	C2/R/5/6/Yashawnthpura/01	M M Charities	CTS No.1436	-	24.57
2	C2/R/5/6/Yashawnthpura/02	Steel Mag		-	5156.00
3	C2/R/5/6/Yashawnthpura/03	1. Karthik S/o P. C. Shrinivasa Murthy 2. Radha W/o P.C. Shrinivasa Murthy 3. Anjana D/o P. C .Shrinivasa Murthy	CTS No.1540	-	148.84

Sd/- Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, K.I.A.D.B.,-(K.R.I.D.E.,), Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru-560001.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed to the General Public's that our clients **Mrs. Alladi Shoba,** W/o Mr. Alladi Ramabramha Sai, aged about 50 years and **Mr. Alladi Ramabrahma Sai,** S/o Late Sri. Alladi Narayana Sastry, aged about 55 years, both at Flat No. 301, 3rd Floor, 'B' Block, 'Admiralty Square' Apartment, No. 79, Appareddypalya, Off 13th Cross, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560 038, have lost original Sale Deed dated16-07-2003, registered as Document No. 1910/03-04 of Book-1, stored in C. D. No. 46, dated 17-07-2003, Registered in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Shivajinagar Bangalore (U) Dist in respect to the below mentioned Schedule Property on 18.04.2025 at Mittal Tower, M. G. Road, Bangalore and same is not traceable and it is irretrievably misplaced in spite of their best efforts and also lodged a Complaint before the Halasuru Police Station, Bangalore City, Bangalore on 28.04.2025 vide Lost Report No.1584483/2025. If anyone find the above mentioned document, they are hereby requested to deliver the same to undersigned and if any person were to deal with the said Original title document in respect to the below mentioned Schedule Property other than our clients, such transactions will not bind on them or the below mentioned Schedule Property and they will be doing so at their own risk and cost.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
A Three Bedrooms Apartment including Pent House bearing No. 301, in the Third Floor in the "B" Block in the building known as "ADMIRALTY SQUARE" and right to exclusive use of terrace space constructed in the Property described in Municipal No. 79, **situated at Appareddypalya, Off 13th Cross, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560 038** with a Built-up **area of 1271.75 Square Feet** and Cellar Car Parking Space One Number, having BBMP PID No. 72-3-79/54, having E.P.I.D No. 7389192532

A. Yogasree,
Siddappaji. S, Advocates
No. 706, 'B' wing, 7th Floor, Mittal Tower, M. G. Road,Bangalore-560 001.
Mob: 7259900683 / 9980413767

KSSIDC KARNATAKA STATE SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Superintending Engineer, Head Office, Industrial Estate, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-10.
Telephone: 080-2340 7011 to 25, E-mail : chiefengineerkssidc@gmail.com, Website:www.kssidc.co.in

Corrigendum to Bid Submission Date Extension

Indent No : KSSIDC/2025-26/SE0022
Ref : No.Eng/ep-95/SE/PPP-3rd Call/2025-26 Dtd: 17-04-2025.

Name of the work: Selection of IDD Empanelled Transaction Advisor for Providing Advisory Services For Development of Land Parcels at Various Locations of KSSIDC estates, Karnataka on PPP Mode (Call-3).

All Intended bidders are hereby informed that for the above work the last date of submission of bid is extended upto **19.05.2025, 17.00 hours.** For more details visit KPP portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
DIPR/CP/JA/443/2025-26

ನಗರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ
ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
E-Mail: itstaff_ulb_hebbagodi@yahoo.com | Website: www.hebbagodicity.mrc.gov.in
ಸಂ:ಹೆ.ನ.ಸ/ತಾಂ.ಶಾ/ಟೆ.ನೋ/ನಿ.ಆರ್/03/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.05.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ್ ಮಿಷನ್ (ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಎಂ) 2.0 ಅನುದಾನ 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 3 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ **ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.10.00 ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.105.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು** ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ನಿಯಮ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 2000 ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–I. ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–4 ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.05.2025 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:12.05.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:13.05.2025ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು** ಹಾಗೂ ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.05.2025 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:20.05.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:21.05.2025ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
(ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಪ್ರಮೀಳಾ ಪಿ.ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರ)
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ

ಸಹಿ/–
(ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ನರಸಿಂಹಮೂರ್ತಿ ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಎ.ಎಸ್)
ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ

ವಾಣಿಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜಿಎ/452/2025–26

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BENGALURU
O.S. No. 5694 of 2022 (CCH-56)
Hearing Date: 12.06.2025
Between: Mr. K. Shanthakumar,
Aged about 67 years, S/o. Late Kochukrishnan Nair, R/at "Sri Priya", Korakkanchery, Thrissur, Kerala - 680007 Presently at Bangalore. ...Plaintiff
And: Sri. Balakrishna and 5 Others ...Defendants

PUBLICATION NOTICE UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1908 TO DEFENDANT NOS. 1 TO 6

1. Sri. Balakrishna, Aged about 40 years, S/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 10th Main Road, Malleshpalya, Kaggadasapura Village, Bangalore.
2. Sri. Abhishek, Aged about 38 years, S/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 10th Main Road, Malleshpalya, Kaggadasapura Village, Bangalore.
3. Sri. Dinesh, Aged about 34 years, s/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 10th Main Road, 6th Cross, Kaggadasapura Village, Malleshpalya, Bangalore.
4. Sri. Mahesh, Aged about 36 years, S/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 5th Main Road, Malleshpalya, Kaggadasapura Village, Bangalore.
5. Sri. N. Nagesh, Aged about 40 years, S/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 1st Main Road, 3rd Cross, Malleshpalya, Kaggadasapura Village, Bangalore.
6. Sri. N. Jagadeesh, Aged about 40 years, S/o not known to the plaintiff, R/at 11th Main Road, 8th Cross, Malleshpalya, Kaggadasapura Village, Bangalore.
...Defendants

WHEREAS, K. Shanthakumar, the Plaintiff herein has instituted the above suit against you for permanent injunction, with respect to the schedule properties wherein the plaintiff is the sole and absolute owner in exclusive possession and enjoyment of the schedule properties.
You are hereby summoned to appear before LV Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge (CCH 56) Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **12th of June 2025 at 11:00 A.M.** to answer the same, failing which the suit will be disposed of ex parte.

SCHEDULE

1. All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. 35, Katha No.86 New No.86, Having PID No. 83-34-86, 7th Main Road, Malleshapalya of Kaggadasapura Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore, now comes under BBMP Bangalore, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet in all measuring 1200 sq. ft and bounded on the: **East by:** Site No.14; **West by:** 20 feet Road **North by:** House property No.36; **South by:** Site No.34.
2. All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. 34, Katha No.86 New No.90, Having PID No. 83-34-86, 7th Main Road, Malleshapalya of Kaggadasapura Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore, now comes under BBMP Bangalore, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet in all measuring 1200 sq. ft and bounded on the: East by: Site No.15; West by: 20 feet Road; North by: House property No.35; South by: Site No.33.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 21st day of April 2025.

By Order of the Court,
SENIOR SHERISTEDAR
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
CrestLaw Partners,
Advocates
No. 33, I Cross, Victoria Road, Xavier Layout, Bengaluru-560047.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

Mrs Jaya Parthasarathy
Passed away peacefully on 1st May 2025.
Mourned by
husband PBV Parthasarathy,
Daughters Suchitra, Srividya and
Son PB Srinath and Sons-in-law and grand children.
Contact - 9940635664

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

NIDEESH. V.B
BBA, LLB (Hons)
School of Law,
Christ University, Bangalore.

It broke our hearts to lose you,
but you did not go alone,
A part of us went with you, the
day God took you home.
If tears could build a stairway
& heartaches make a lane,
We'd walk our way to heaven
and bring you back again.
In life we loved you dearly, in
death we love you still.
In our hearts you hold a place
no one could ever fill.

Fondly remembered by
Parents, Sisters and Friends

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: **www.thehinduads.com**
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami and other leaders attending the party's executive committee meeting held at the party headquarters in Chennai on Friday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

AIADMK executive meeting approves alliance with BJP

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The executive committee of the AIADMK on Friday gave its approval to the formation of an alliance with the BJP for the 2026 Assembly election.

A resolution to this effect was adopted at a meeting of the executive held at the party headquarters here.

It was attended by general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami, presidium chairman A. Tamilmagan Hussain, and senior functionaries K.P. Munusamy, Natham R. Viswanathan and Dindigul C. Sreenivasan.

The motion was moved by a group of office-bearers, including organisation secretaries S. Semmalai and T. Rathnavel. Among the notable participants was former Minister K.A. Sengottaiyan, who was said to have differences of opinion with Mr. Palaniswami.

Expressing its wish that the coalition would become a "victorious alliance", the committee said a front was being formed by like-minded parties to defeat the "common adversary" – the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) – and ensuring that anti-DMK votes did not get split. The committee, which also greeted Mr. Palaniswami for his efforts to forge a "mega alliance", resolved to make him the Chief Minister again.

The AIADMK welcomed the Centre's move to hold a caste census, along with the general census, an issue that the party had been pursuing with the Centre for years.

It declared that it would stand by the Central government in its efforts to root out terrorism in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack.

Criticising the DMK government on a variety of issues, the executive called upon the State government to bring out a White Paper on industrial investment that materialised after Chief Minister M.K. Stalin made a couple of foreign visits.

Modi re-starts Amaravati projects worth ₹58,000 cr.

Modi had first laid the foundation stone for capital city Amaravati in 2015 during the previous TDP rule, however, works were halted after the subsequent YSRCP govt. decided to go for three capitals

Appaji Reddem
AMARAVATI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated about ₹58,000-crore worth works in Andhra Pradesh at a venue near Secretariat, in Guntur district on Friday.

The Prime Minister virtually re-started the unfinished works at Amaravati, and said the Centre would extend full support to the State to realise its vision. These projects include capital city institutions, national highways, railway upgrades, and defence-related installations.

In fact, Mr. Modi, had laid the foundation stone for capital city Amaravati in 2015, during the earlier regime of the Telugu Desam Party government. However, works could not be completed within the previous TDP rule. And later the successive YSR Congress Party government decided to go for three capitals and halted works at Amaravati.

Infra push: PM Narendra Modi inaugurating various projects at Amaravati restart programme on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sharing dais with Governor Abdul S. Nazeer, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and others, Mr. Modi, addressed a huge gathering of farmers, leaders and public on Friday. He said, "As we know, Amaravati is the name of Indra's capital and now it is the capital of Andhra Pradesh. It has the peace of Buddhist heritage and the strength to ensure Viksit Bharat. The city will lead in fields of IT, AI, green energy, clean industries, education and healthcare in the days to come."

The Prime Minister, projecting the potential of the capital city, tried a couple of lines in Telugu and said, "*Amaravati oka nagaram kaadu, oka Shakti* (Amaravati is not a city, it's a force)."

Mr. Modi also said that he had laid the foundation for the city in 2015. All obstacles for Amaravati are gone now and development was the focus.

"NTR dreamt of Vikasit Andhra. We, [Naidu, Pawan Kalyan and me] need to do it. Only we will do it," he stressed.

Port is result of collective will: Pinarayi

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Vizhinjam International Seaport is the result of the "collective will and determination" showed by the Left Democratic Front (LDF), Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said.

"This is not just the opening of a port gate but the opening of the country's grand gateway to the development potential of the third millennium, a grand initiative that will link India to the global maritime trade logistics map," said Mr. Vijayan during the commissioning ceremony here on Friday.

Narendra Modi and Pinarayi Vijayan during the inauguration of the Vizhinjam port on Friday.

The State is bearing ₹5,370.86 crore out of the total project cost of ₹8,686 crore. The remaining ₹2,497 crore is being spent by Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited. The Centre is providing a viability gap fund of ₹818 crore.

The port now can arrest the national loss of 220 million dollars per year due to 75% of the container transshipment cargo from the country being diverted to foreign ports, he pointed out. It is a matter of pride for all Keralites that the State could make up for the national loss to a large extent, said Mr. Vijayan.

"I also extend my congratulations to the Adani Group for executing this mission with excellence," he said. He added that more than 5,000 direct jobs are being created as part of the port project.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Thunderstorms accompanied with heavy rainfall/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Karnataka and central Maharashtra

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	10	33.8	21.8	Kozhikode	—	36.6	27.0
Ahmedabad	—	43.4	27.6	Kurnool	—	40.1	27.8
Aizawl	5	32.1	20.6	Lucknow	—	34.2	25.2
Allahabad	—	38.6	25.1	Madurai	—	38.2	26.8
Bengaluru	20	33.0	20.5	Mangaluru	—	33.8	24.8
Bhopal	—	41.6	23.6	Mumbai	—	34.4	24.9
Bhubaneswar	—	35.2	22.0	Mysuru	—	34.0	21.0
Chandigarh	12.9	31.1	20.6	New Delhi	77	29.1	18.5
Chennai	—	36.0	29.2	Patna	0.7	34.0	22.2
Coimbatore	—	36.5	25.0	Port Blair	0.2	32.4	25.6
Dehradun	0.7	29.8	21.6	Puducherry	—	35.7	27.6
Gangtok	7	22.6	12.7	Pune	—	43.2	25.6
Goa	—	37.0	29.0	Raipur	6	37.4	21.0
Guwahati	8	32.0	19.7	Ranchi	—	31.8	16.0
Hubballi	—	40.0	23.0	Shillong	23	21.4	12.7
Hyderabad	—	38.0	25.4	Shimla	17	19.0	12.0
Imphal	5	28.1	18.6	Srinagar	—	24.8	14.4
Jaipur	—	35.5	23.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.6	27.4
Kochi	—	33.0	27.0	Tiruchi	—	39.1	27.6
Kohima	21	19.6	18.8	Vijayawada	—	39.4	27.6
Kolkata	21	33.4	20.4	Visakhapatnam	3	33.4	23.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.12	..41	15	... 134	...116	
Bengaluru	.10	..43	70	..... —	95	
Chennai	...8	..13	43	 47	51	
Delhi	.22	..73	92	... 107	...156	
Hyderabad	.14	..16	49	 47	...103	
Kolkata	...6	..32	24	 65	66	
Lucknow	.11	..47	56	... 106	...135	
Mumbai	.37	..16	55	 20	62	
Pune	..—	..42	18	... 101	...116	
Visakhapatnam	.10	..30	24	 33	52	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bikaner, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 356 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Agartala, Tripura recorded a healthy AQI score of 21

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT. DIVISION, BELAGAVI)
No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2025-26/469 Date: 02.05.2025
- ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP):-

The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered in KPPP in Public Works Department under KW-1, 2, 3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a total of 38 works under 4059 Departmental/Judicial Buildings, 5054 MDR Improvements, 3054 MDR MAINTENANCE, 5054 SH Improvements/Renewals, and 8443-Deposit Contribution with maximum & minimum tender amounts of Rs.199.72 Lakhs & Rs. 8.15 Lakhs respectively and EMD with maximum & minimum amount of Rs.2,99,600/- & Rs.10,200/- respectively. Part-1: Tender receipt Date is on 12.05.2025 up to 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 13.05.2025 after 4.45 PM and Part-2: Tender receipt Date is on 19.05.2025 up to 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 20.05.2025 after 4.45 PM for more information visit www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in after 02.05.2025.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Belagavi Division Belagavi.
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-167/KSMCA/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Davanagere
No.EE/RDWS& SD/DVG/AE-2/Tender/2025-26/96
Dated:- 29.04.2025
Short term E-Procurement Tender Notification-2nd CALL

Tender is invited through e-procurement for **Supply Of Electrofusion Machine for HDPE PIPE Jointing in Davanagere District (12 Nos** for approved under 2025-26 –15th Finance scheme in **two** cover system by the Executive Engineer, RDWS& S Division, Davanagere on behalf the Governor of Karnataka, foreligible registered Suppliers/ Manufacturesand also registered in e-Portal cell.**Item rate Goods tender** as per standard bid documents **KG** only through e-Procurement in order to enhance the transparency in the tendering process and hence there will be no physical form of tender. Last date for submission of tenders on **Dated:08.05.2025 at 5.00 PM**. Further details can be obtained from this office Tel No:08192-262126 or through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/42/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26
Sd/- Executive Engineer
RWS Division, Davanagere

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Special Commissioner (Forests, Environment and Climate Change) N.R Square, Bengaluru-02
No:SC(FECCM)/PR/326/2025-26 Date: 02.05.2025
NOTIFICATION
BENGALURU CLIMATE ACTION CELL
CSR Unit - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

On behalf of the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the Climate Action Cell (CAC) at BBMP is inviting applications from Bright-Minded Professionals Passionate about climate change and urban governance with Specialization in CSR Related activities. The CAC seeks to engage individuals who can bring fresh perspectives, skills and innovation to solve real-life challenges faced by Bengaluru.

In view of this, applications are open for the following positions:

- **CSR Unit Manager (1 Position) - Rs.1,00,000 Per Month**
- **CSR Unit Fellow (1 Position) - Rs.50,000 Per Month**

Interested and eligible candidates may apply online at https://apps.bbmpgov.in/bcap/ and follow the prescribed process. Detailed information and guidelines are available on the portal. The last date for submission of applications is **25th May 2025.**

For further queries, please contact bbmpclimateactioncell@gmail.com

Sd/- Special Commissioner (FECC)
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN : U41000KA2016SGC097260
Regd Off: No. 148, Embassy Square, Infantry Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
No. MD/Admin/C&R/Recruitment/2024-25/275 Dt. 02.05.2025
NOTIFICATION

The Notification inviting application for certain category of posts vide Notification No.MD/Admin/C&R/Recruitment/2021-22/613 dated 06.07.2021 notified in "Kannada Prabha" and "The Hindu" Dt. 06.07.2021 and uploaded on VJNL website stands cancelled due to administrative reasons. For details visit our website: **www.vjnl.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Managing Director

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA
(Minor Irrigation and Groundwater Development Department)
Office of the Project Director, State Program Management Unit (SPMU), #1/1, 2nd Floor, K.S.F.C Bhavan, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru-560 052.
No: ABHY/SPMU/PROC/02/340/2025-26 Date: 02.05.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Only through kpp portal)

SPMU, Atal Bhujal Yojana, invited tender from bidders in two cover system through kpp Portal for **"Construction of wire screen filter injection well for artificial recharge of groundwater along with 2 year operation and maintenance in Atal Bhujal Yojana, Karnataka"**

The detailed notification regarding eligibility and other details can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The tender document can be downloaded through "kpp portal" from **03.05.2025 onwards** and last date for receipt of tender is on or **before 12.05.2025, 17.30 hrs.**

Further details can be obtained from the office hours from **10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Sd/-
Tender Inviting Authority,
SPMU, Atal Jal, Karnataka
DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO449/25-26

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,
(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)
3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001
NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court, the Special Officer & Competent Authority is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.
The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Short description of the Immovable Property (SPLOCA/AUC(2)/CR/10/2025-26)

Properties are free of all encumbrances and are in the name of Competent Authority appointed by Government and confirmed by the Special Court under KPIDFE Act, 2004. (Khata stands in the name of Competent Authority and Auctioning Authority)

Sl. No.	DETAILS OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 707/2019)	Minimum Bid Price (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)
1.	No.7/2, PID No. 76-36-7/2, Alexandra Street, Richmond Town, Old Ward No. 76 New Ward No. 117, Shanthinagara, Bengaluru. East to west toward East 65' 3 & Towards West 51+ 10 ft & North to South Towards North 59 ft & toward South 68 ft Aggregating 4010 sq.ft (Ground + 6 Floor) Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/GB9VyYJrwfcfagiS8			
(a)	1st floor, Flat No. FF-101, UDS-369.50, SBA-1715.625 sq.ft	2,64,30,000/-	26,43,000/-	2,65,000/-
(b)	1st floor, Flat No. FF-102, UDS-359.41, SBA-1668.75 sq.ft	2,57,20,000/-	25,72,000/-	2,58,000/-
(c)	2nd floor, Flat No. SF-201, UDS-369.50, SBA-1715.625 sq.ft	2,66,90,000/-	26,69,000/-	2,67,000/-
(d)	2nd floor, Flat No. SF-202, UDS-359.41, SBA-1668.75 sq.ft	2,59,80,000/-	25,98,000/-	2,60,000/-
(e)	4th floor, Flat No.FRT-401, UDS-369.50, SBA-1715.625 sq.ft	2,63,00,000/-	26,30,000/-	2,63,000/-
(f)	4th floor, Flat No.FRT-402, UDS-359.41, SBA-1668.75 sq.ft	2,56,00,000/-	25,60,000/-	2,56,000/-
(g)	5th floor, Flat No.FTF-500, UDS-711, SBA-3301.25 sq.ft	5,02,10,000/-	50,21,000/-	5,03,000/-
(h)	6th floor, Pent House No.501, UDS-383.37, SBA-1780 sq.ft	2,74,10,000/-	27,41,000/-	2,75,000/-

Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place	Date of Inspection & time	Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission	Date & Time of E Auction
12th June 2025, 3 pm to 4 pm Place: O/o SPLOCA, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Tower, Bengaluru-01	**13th June 2025, 11:00am to 05:00pm**	**17th June 2025, Before 5pm**	**18th June 2025, 11 am to 1 pm**

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Helpdesk No: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 6364403715.

Date: 29-04-2025
Place: Bengaluru
Sd/-
Special Officer & Competent Authority
DIPR/CP/444/Zen/2025-26 **(Under KPIDFE –IMA & Other Scam) Bengaluru.**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE(PROC)-2/AEE4/2025-26/231-40 Date:02.05.2025
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids on electronic mode for the following works against following Enquiry Numbers:

Enquiry number/ Name of the Work
KPTCL/2025-26/TL/WORK_INDENT2222

Strengthening of existing 66kV Transmission line from existing 220/66kV Anchepalya sub station to Yadiyuru substation with HTLS conductor on existing 66kV Anchepalya - Yadiyuru SC line on DC Tower with one of the circuit to be LILO of Thippur substation for a distance of 28.564kms, along with construction of one number of 66KV TB at 220/66KV Anchepalya and 66/11KV Yadiyuru in Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District. on Total Turnkey basis including Supply of all Materials/ equipments, Mandatory Spares, Erection (Including Civil Works) of all materials/equipments, Testing and Commissioning.
Last date & time for receipt of Bids is **04.06.2025 at 15:00hrs.**

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website:**https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 05.05.2025. Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.** Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours. All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

Sd/- Chief General Manager(Tech), Corporate Office,
KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION KOPPAL.
Phone No: 08539 – 222318 email : eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:DB:KW-3:2025-26/338 Date:28-04-2025.
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-3 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : KKRDB Macro Institutional-General & KKRDB Macro Institutional-SCP/2024-25. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. **08539 – 222318** and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. **03 Works (Work Indent No: 20392/CALL-2, 20545/CALL-2, & 20813/CALL-2).** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **09-05-2025** Time 13.00, Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **12-05-2025** Time 13.30. Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **15-05-2025** Time 11.00. Minimum & Estimate Maximum Amount **Rs. 86.65 Lakhs** & **Rs. 100.00 Lakhs** respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, for reservation of category & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.

Sd/- EE PWD Division,Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/63/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

Fire and smoke

Structures in congested cities must be made fire-safety compliant

Fourteen people, two of them children, were killed and 13 injured in a hotel fire in the Mechua market area of Burrabazar in central Kolkata on Tuesday. The fire engines had trouble accessing the congested area. It appears, yet again, that many of the victims were asphyxiated – smoke is as much a deadly killer as the flames themselves. Smoke quickly rises up and escape would require reaching the bottom areas of the building. The six-storey hotel had only one stairway, and the fire that broke out on the first floor cut off escape. One person died after jumping from the building. That there were no other accessible means of escape is, in and of itself, a violation of fire safety norms. On Thursday, a similar tragedy unfolded in Rajasthan's Ajmer, a historic town. Fire broke out in a five-storey hotel in which four persons died. Some guests tried to jump out of the windows, and fire engines had trouble accessing the congested area.

Devastating fires in congested buildings leading to tragic loss of lives and property have become a disturbingly routine phenomenon across India, especially in Kolkata. There, Opposition leaders have rightly listed at least eight major fires in the last decade and half, starting with the AMRI hospital fire in 2011 that claimed 89 lives. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has spoken about a gas cylinder explosion after the Tuesday fire. She too has talked about there being only one staircase. Ms. Banerjee has characterised such fires as accidents that could not have been prevented. But the tragedies, in Ajmer and Kolkata, were entirely preventable and mitigation could have been far more efficient. Many of India's cities and inner cities of metropolises continue to see high volume business activities but their safety features are outdated. They do not comply with current fire and structural safety norms. Fire escapes and emergency exits are non-existent and the structures use highly flammable materials from another era. Unlike other metropolises that have seen some redevelopment of inner cities in recent decades, Kolkata seems to have missed that phase. Immediate solutions can include maintaining low-height sidewalks to allow fire engines to get closer to building fronts, retrofitting fire retardant materials in buildings, and considering the use of retractable metallic staircases to serve as emergency escapes outside the buildings after careful evaluation by fire safety authorities. There is also a case for equipping firefighting teams with more breathing apparatuses so more personnel can rescue people in distress in such structures since their limited access routes may be smoke-filled.

Minerals gamble

The pact with the U.S. does little for Ukraine's security

After painstaking negotiations, marked by inflammatory exchanges, Washington and Kyiv have signed an agreement that would grant the U.S. access to Ukraine's critical mineral and oil and gas resources through a joint investment fund. Ukraine has claimed that it would lead to an equal economic partnership, while its actual impact remains uncertain. The idea of a minerals deal was proposed by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy last year to the Biden administration as part of his "victory plan". His pitch was to open up Ukraine's vast untapped critical minerals resources (which include lithium, graphite, uranium and titanium, besides rare earth minerals) in exchange for continued American military support and security guarantees. After Donald Trump assumed the presidency, he supported a minerals deal, but an entirely different one. He insisted that Kyiv repay the billions of dollars provided as military and economic assistance during the war by granting U.S. companies access to Ukraine's resources. At one point, the disagreement escalated into a public spat at the Oval Office between Mr. Zelenskyy and Mr. Trump. But both sides pressed ahead, which culminated in the April 30 deal.

For Ukraine, the agreement represents an improvement over Mr. Trump's previous proposals. There is no reference to aid as debt in the fine print. Under the deal, the United States-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund will finance extraction projects in Ukraine's resources. Kyiv will share 50% of the revenues from these projects towards the fund. While the agreement omits any reference to past U.S. aid, future American assistance will be considered as capital contributions to the fund – Ukraine will have to repay future aid through resource revenues. More importantly, although Mr. Zelenskyy originally envisioned a minerals deal as a pathway to securing security guarantees from the U.S., the final agreement offers no explicit American security commitments to Kyiv. Ukrainian officials have portrayed the deal, which needs to be ratified by Parliament, as a win-win. But it actually underscores Kyiv's growing vulnerabilities in a war that shows no sign of abating. Mr. Zelenskyy and his generals are aware that if American support dries up, their embattled forces would be in peril. And Mr. Trump has already rejected Ukraine's most pressing demand – firm security guarantees. Facing limited options, Ukraine has signed the agreement in the hope that it would at least ensure continued flow of U.S. military assistance in the form of U.S. investments to the fund. But Mr. Zelenskyy's minerals gamble will pay off only if the Trump administration stays committed to helping end the war. If the war drags on, with Russia forces continuing to advance in the east, the minerals deal would mean little for Ukraine's security.

A profound shift in the global order

Mukul Sanwal

is a former UN diplomat

India is at another inflexion point, reminiscent of Vasco De Gama sailing into Kozhikode in 1498 and of a complacent Zamorin lacking strategic intention. Instead of trade routes, global value chains are being reshaped by force. The stakes are high for India which is in line to be the third largest economy.

The 75-year-old post-colonial order, labelled as globalisation, characterised multilateralism imposing rule-based restrictions on all for the common good. Its conceptual foundation of a world divided between 'donors' and 'recipients' became obsolete with China 'overtaking' the United States as the largest donor, and in the share of manufacturing and global trade. The World Trade Organization and the United Nations and Treaties lost their utility to the proponents, leading to U.S. withdrawals. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the G-7 scrambling to corner medicines, oblivious of the plight of others. Now, the G-7 is splitting leaving a vacuum and global institutions such as BRICS will soon have more requests for membership.

U.S. President Donald Trump is not whimsical. He is responding to a more equal world moving out of the colonial frame that is attempting to hold on to fading benefits. Bilateral deals are forcing countries to subordinate their interests and the way tariffs have been described and defined arbitrarily based on trade imbalance intrudes into how national laws should be changed. Least Developed Countries no longer have privileges. The U.S. is restructuring its approach to prosperity and power and so should the others.

A post-WTO frame

The 'breakup' of the G-7 and G-20 now leaves global agenda-setting open. Since 2020, the U.S., China, the European Union and India have together contributed nearly three-quarters of all growth, with the U.S. and China accounting for almost half. There is also a decline in the relative power of the U.S. Russia has become an Asian power, increasing energy links with China and India.

Asia will soon again have two-thirds of global wealth and power (as had been the case throughout civilisation except for the age of colonialism). Geopolitics has returned to its natural state of co-existence sharing prosperity.

History should remind India to focus on its own destiny

India has to be strategic to grasp new opportunities with the 'dismantling' of the WTO just as China used its entry into the WTO for its rise. The U.S. and China are pretty much evenly balanced in terms of influence, trade, technology, defensive military capacity and playing tit-for-tat on tariff levels. The challenge is to manage trade relations with the U.S. pushing its agricultural and energy surplus and to build on the rapprochement with China.

The future direction has been set in the recent statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that this is the Asian Century. The turmoil within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an opportunity to jointly work towards an Asian common market, with bilateral concessions to share prosperity. As the WTO's 'most-favoured nation' clause of non-discrimination withers away, it is in India's longer term interest to propose a new cooperative architecture to ASEAN and the African Union, as their potential consumption will exceed current consumption in the U.S. and Europe.

India's world-class diplomats should be given the task of coming up with a new type of principles of global governance for a more equal world. Gaining from global value chains that are dependent more on technology than on tariffs requires laying out a new type of rules that reduce non-tariff barriers and treat linkages between goods, services, investment and infrastructure as part of composite agreements, with a review of national impacts annually.

Trade and innovation neglected

Emerging from colonialism, India framed foreign policy in terms of a balancing between the great powers, relying on tactics than on strategy. The first challenge to the post-colonial world was the Bandung Conference of newly independent Asian and African countries in 1955. Jawaharlal Nehru moved to the Non-Aligned Movement in 1961, shifting from economic development to peace in a divided world, becoming a darling of the West while India remained poor. The best diplomats are still sent to negotiate resolutions in the United Nations, ignoring rights and opportunities through trade. India also ignored what other leading powers were doing – technological innovation in partnership with academia and industry, which is the other side of the coin of trade.

Now is the time for hard decisions to be taken to develop a national consensus between political parties and States on how to nurture talent and focus on skills and employment in order to regain our technological edge, wealth and global status. The West developed on the foundation of colonialism unlike the East. New policy groups need to engage and seek complementarity with China, ASEAN and Africa as value chains get restructured. There will no longer be global goods and treaties to which others can subscribe; the smaller countries that have been hit hardest by the new order are looking for an alternative to choosing sides

India has the endogenous capacity to aim for global technological leadership by developing open source software that will shape future multilateralism and international cooperation. Huawei, which was sanctioned by the U.S. for spreading telecommunication networks worldwide, is manufacturing 7-nanometer (7nm) chips just behind global technology leaders. The DeepSeek open source AI model is cheaper than and as good as the best in the U.S.. Fifteen years ago, a World Bank study noted that China has reached global scale in the hardware industry but not in software. India had achieved the reverse, then faltered.

Lesson from China

The most important lesson in China's re-emergence is national consensus on endogenous pathways to achieve prosperity, and not looking at socio-economic growth through the modelling prism of the West. Patents are a better indicator of future prosperity than GDP. Reducing the price of assured electricity is the most effective incentive for a restructuring of the economy, and prosperity is the optimum adaptation to adverse effects of climate change.

India needs to formulate grand challenges with academia and industry to leverage its world-class human talent, vast data and proven digital stack to build the best large language models in the world, which would make India a formidable cyber power. In the digital world, the foundation of wealth and influence is AI, which is reminiscent of India clothing the world for millennia relying on skill and not monopoly.

Strengthening parliamentary oversight in India

Mitul Jhaveri

is a public policy professional and a research scholar at Carnegie Mellon University

Aatman Shah

is a public policy professional and a research scholar at the National University of Singapore

A historical fact is that over nearly three years, the Constituent Assembly met for 167 days to frame the Constitution of India. Among the many crucial debates that occurred was the question of what form of government India should adopt. Defending the choice of a parliamentary system, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar argued that it offered more responsibility and less stability which is a necessary trade-off for a functioning democracy. He emphasised the point that such a system allows for the daily accountability of the executive through questions, motions and debates in Parliament, and periodic accountability through elections.

A diminishing of oversight

While the Constitution enshrines checks and balances, legislative oversight has often been diminished. Efficiency in governance is important, but not at the cost of transparency. Strengthening the role of Parliament in scrutinising executive action is essential in not just making laws but also ensuring their effective implementation and accountability. If India seeks 'Maximum Governance', it must also commit to 'Maximum Accountability', starting with an empowered and effective Parliament.

Over decades, Parliament has developed an array of mechanisms to fulfil this mandate – some formal, some by convention. From the daily scrutiny of Question Hour and the spontaneity of Zero Hour, to the behind-the-scenes workings of Standing Committees, these tools form the framework of accountability. In theory, they empower Members of Parliament (MP) to ask probing questions, seek detailed information, and even move a no-confidence motion if necessary.

Despite its strong framework, parliamentary oversight often falls short. Question Hour, intended as a daily spotlight on government accountability, is frequently disrupted by noisy protests, leading to adjournments where important issues remain unaddressed. During the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-24), Question Hour functioned for 60% of its scheduled time in the Lok Sabha and 52% in Rajya Sabha, significantly reducing its effectiveness. Even when it operates, individual MPs tend to focus on isolated queries rather than a systematic scrutiny of complex, cross-ministerial problems.

Along with 'maximum governance, there needs to be 'maximum accountability', which must start with an empowered and effective Parliament

Parliamentary committees, including the Department-related Standing Committees (DRSC), meet regularly and generate detailed reports, though these are often not taken up for discussion on the floor. Consequently, despite their detailed evaluations of policies and schemes, committee findings have had limited influence on legislation or executive action. Despite their mandate for detailed scrutiny, committee consultations tend to engage a relatively small group of stakeholders, raising concerns about diversity and the breadth of input. Moreover, their inherently temporary structure limits the ability of members to develop both expertise and institutional standing.

Some successes

Even with its inconsistencies, Indian legislative oversight has had notable successes. The Standing Committee on Railways recommended waiving dividend payments by Indian Railways in 2015 to improve its financial health, which was implemented in 2016. The Standing Committee on Transport influenced the Motor Vehicles Bill amendments in 2017, removing caps on third-party insurance and establishing a National Road Safety Board.

Other significant interventions include the Committee on Public Undertakings addressing delays in National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)-managed highway projects, recommending that projects commence only after acquiring 80% of land and necessary clearances. Similarly, the Estimates Committee advised increasing domestic uranium production by opening new mines, reducing dependency on imports. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) exposed critical delays, opaque appointments, and corrupt practices during the Commonwealth Games in 2010. On average, the PAC has made 180 recommendations every year in the past eight years, out of which 80% were accepted by the government.

To make oversight truly effective, Parliament must adopt targeted reforms, beginning with robust post-legislative scrutiny. Laws do not end with their passage; they begin there. Yet, India lacks a formal process to track whether laws are achieving their intended impact. This gap can be addressed by creating subcommittees under each Standing Committee or a specialised body to review implementation. The United Kingdom offers a useful model: government departments submit reviews of major laws within three to five years, which are then examined by parliamentary committees – enabling timely course correction and ensuring that laws deliver on their promises.

Strengthening and institutionalising committee work must also be a priority. One way to do this is by making oversight findings more accessible; through translations in local languages, visual explainers, or short videos. At the same time, select DRSC reports should be brought to the floor for debate, followed by a mandatory response from the Minister concerned. This would ensure that committee work informs parliamentary discourse and enhances executive accountability. Committees must also be strengthened with dedicated research and technical support, thus moving beyond mere administrative assistance.

Adopt technology

Technology offers a powerful opportunity to modernise and strengthen parliamentary oversight. MPs in India often operate without specialised staff or professional research support, making it harder to scrutinise complex policies or spending data. Faced with massive volumes of budget documents, audit reports, and policy reviews, they are at a disadvantage. By leveraging Artificial Intelligence and data analytics, Parliament can help members swiftly flag irregularities, track policy trends, and frame sharper, evidence-based questions.

While delivering the inaugural address held to formally inaugurate the new Standing Committees in 1993, the then Vice-President K.R. Narayanan said that the main purpose of the system was not to weaken or criticise the administration but to strengthen it by investing it with more meaningful parliamentary support. Strengthening legislative oversight means honouring the mandate citizens have given their representatives; to make sure the machinery of government stays transparent, accountable, and truly "of the people, by the people, and for the people.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Census, caste, reservation

Reservation was introduced to correct historical injustices, and even Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had said it should be a temporary measure. But seven decades after Independence, political parties are still using it for vote-bank interests. There is now competition among parties to increase reservations — not out of concern for the poor, but to secure power.

Perhaps the government must limit reservation to 25%, and for economically poor families, irrespective of caste. All upper castes are not rich and not all backward classes are poor. Helping the truly needy should be the goal. Let us aim for a casteless society.

T. Kailash Ditya,
Hyderabad

The motive, intent and purpose of the caste rhetoric is for nothing but a few more seats, and thus power in the great Indian election circus. We have developed a respectable aura around social engineering in the electoral calculus and many seem to pride themselves at being past masters in the art of election success by cobbling up appropriate caste narratives and equations. It is time India migrates to economic criteria in order to target affirmative action.

Jose Abraham Kattiparambil,
Vaikom, Kottayam, Kerala

It should be ensured that reservation must not cross the 50% limit at any cost. The Census must identify those in genuine need of support. The Census must include the total income of the family in a month and also immovable assets.

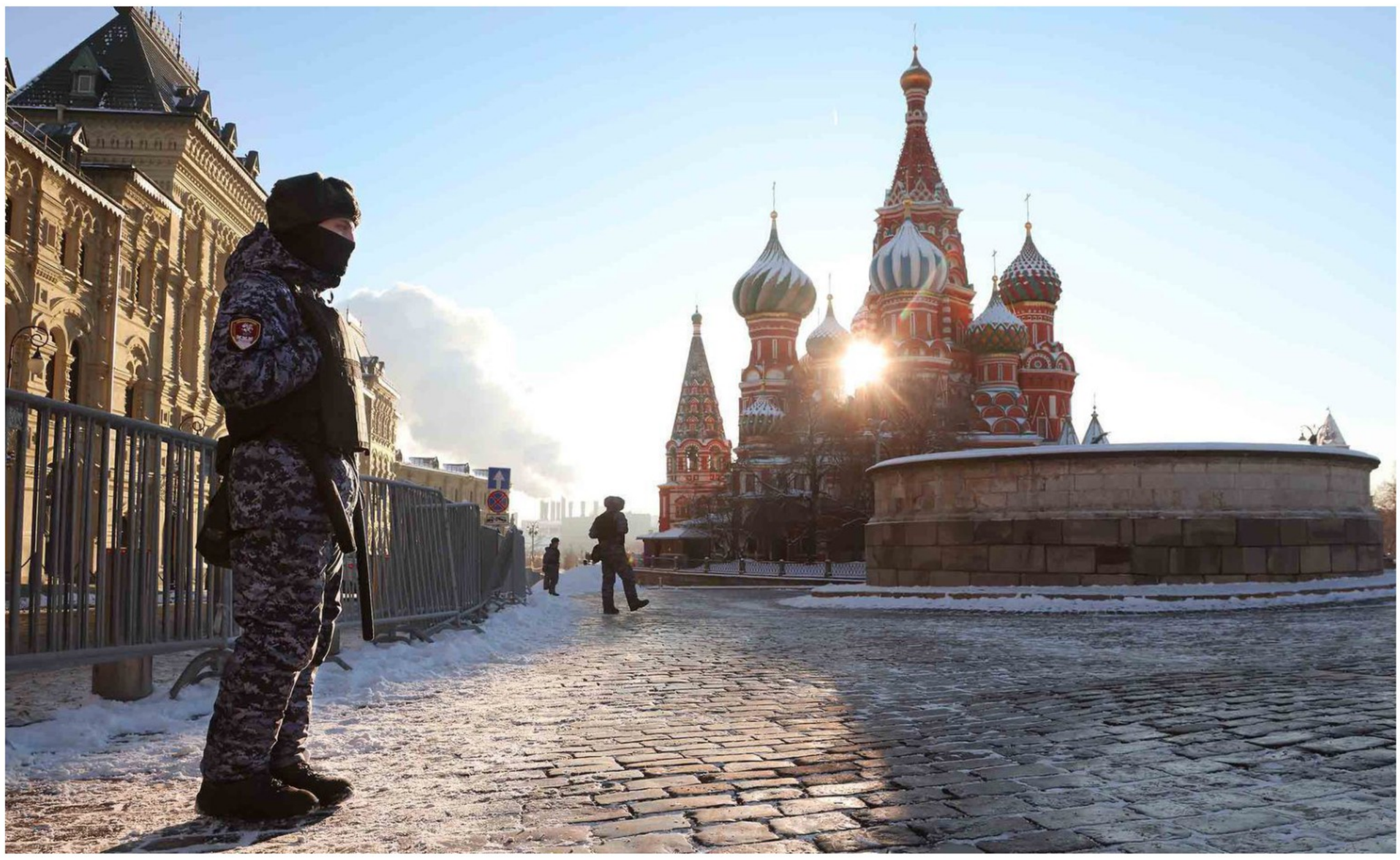
Parthasarathy N.,
Chennai

Indian orange economy

The Prime Minister has said that "foreign consumers are consuming Indian entertainment with subtitles" ("Modi champions 'orange economy' at WAVES", May 2). But, I feel that the standard of Indian films and songs in the last few decades or so has left a lot to be desired. The songs of the 1960s and 1970s (in all Indian languages) were so melodious and meaningful, that our utility from them will never get saturated. There should be a renaissance of that culture as far as the film/tinsel world is concerned to cheerfully claim that the 'orange economy' (creative economy), in the real sense of the term, has dawned in India. In the digital era, there is much for creative minds to come up with products for public consumption. It is imperative that creators do their bit responsibly, to keep their audience entertained and enlightened.

S. Ramakrishnasayee,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.



The Russian National Guard at the Red Square in Moscow, Russia. This year will be the 80th anniversary of Victory Day, commemorating the Red Army's victory over Nazi Germany in World War II. GETTY IMAGES

The chatter in Moscow's Red Square

Despite U.S. President Donald Trump's overtures to Moscow, people there still feel that the American administration cannot be trusted. **Kallol Bhattacherjee** finds that even as global geopolitics is changing, and there are uncertainties in their lives, Moscovites continue to believe that the war with Ukraine is a war against NATO expansionism, and that Ukraine's eastern Russian-speaking territory is rightfully theirs

Crisp sub-zero winds envelop the Red Square, Moscow's heart, as political activists, weekenders, and visitors from abroad pour through the twin-towered Resurrection gates, reconstructed in 1994. In the square, on one side is Soviet hero Vladimir Lenin's memorial and the Kremlin, where governments have conducted business. On the other is the execution spot, where rebels were hanged during the Czarist period.

About a dozen people have gathered in the space, first constructed in the 14th century, for the festivities that precede the Victory Day parade on May 9 that commemorates the triumph of the Red Army over Nazi invaders in 1945, when World War II ended. This year will be the 80th anniversary, a reminder of the about 20 million Russian lives lost across four years.

Posters bearing '1945-2025' hang from every street corner, welcoming visitors to the Red Square. The revellers head towards the heritage market located on one side of the stone-paved expanse that has been witness to Russian history, from the Tzars to the communists to the disintegration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1991. Until then, Ukraine had been one of 15 republics of the Soviet Union.

In the days running up to May 9, the market is dominated by supporters of President Vladimir Putin. They sing, wave tricolour white-blue-red flags, and distribute newspapers and pamphlets. These editorialise the news, declaring a definite victory in Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine.

"Our citizens know that we are not fighting with Ukraine, but with the U.S., and for that we need to threaten Washington, not Sumy," says an article in *Natsional'ny Curs* (The Nationalist Path), a news pamphlet that openly calls for keeping Russia's nuclear arsenal ready. While the pamphlets and newspapers are in Russian, and that is the predominant language on the street, Moscow also has communities of Turks, Greeks, and Germans.

The enthusiastic support for Russia's military campaign in Ukraine is infectious and most of Moscow – citizens and travellers alike – reflects this. Seema Kushwaha, an Indian student in her 20s, is in Moscow for a few months to study Russian, on an exchange programme from Agra. She says, "People back home worry about the situation here. But we don't have any fear as Russia is very strong in security matters. The war is heading in the right direction for Russia."

The impact on Russia

The over three-year-old war began with Putin amassing troops along Russia's border with Ukraine and making demands against North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) expansion, which were rejected. The Russian army then went in, in what Putin called a "special military operation". On February 24, 2022, Putin announced the launch of missiles. Soon, Russia launched a full-fledged attack, bombing the capital Kyiv, and going to annex the eastern Ukrainian territories of the predominantly Russian-speaking Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhia.

> Trump is a businessman, not a strategic thinker. His aim is to secure critical minerals
>
> **MARGARITA F. MUDRAK**
> Professor

Within a day the west imposed sanctions on Russia, impacting travel, communication, and daily monetary transactions of regular people. For instance, international credit cards ceased to work and some mainstream apps, such as those from the Meta stable, are mostly inaccessible.

"But the sanctions have not cut us out from the world. Yes, they restrict us, but we still manage to travel using third countries such as the UAE," says Viktor Panin, who teaches international relations, in Pyatigorsk, in southern Russia, who is visiting Moscow.

The war has not dampened the party-loving Russian spirit. Weekend festivities are necessary, but that comes after placing flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Here, two soldiers – a woman and a man – stand, as the cold wind prompts walkers to wear gloves and fur caps for one last time before summer arrives.

As people place blood red roses and carnations at the memorial, where an eternal flame has been burning for decades, tourist guides apologetically remind them not to try and look for GPS locations. "The GPS is down in the Red Square. There has been a military alert this morning," a guide says. A Ukrainian drone had managed to sneak into the Moscow region. The no-GPS information draws a careless shrug from visitors, who continue with their plans. The chatter in Red Square is one of defiance, not of fear.

The singers and pro-war demonstrators quickly take out a copy of *Natsional'ny Curs*. "Did you know that since 1994 our strategic missiles have no flight missions, that is the missiles have not been aimed for a long time. The U.S. has started the war in Ukraine. They want to destroy Russia and are not going to stop as nothing threatens them," it says on the the front page.

U.S. President Donald Trump has extended a proposal for talks and Russia has responded cautiously, leading to growing frustration in Washington DC. "We are well aware of what a mutually beneficial deal looks like, which we have never rejected, and what a deal looks like that could lead us into another trap," Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview with *Kommersant* newspaper.

A view of Kyivskaya metro station. GETTY IMAGES

Arif Asalioglu, a Turkish analyst of international affairs, who has been in Moscow for 13 years, says Moscovites have emerged stronger despite the war. Sipping tea with a sugar cube in his mouth, he recalls his earlier days in the city, when people were less assertive on the streets, and regional divisions were heightened. Now, he says, Russia seems more united, but there are challenges. "There is no official figure about the number of casualties in the war, and the worst fighting is behind us, but it wasn't easy for Russia. The birth rate has gone down as a result of the war and some of the early war supporters lost popularity as the war passed through highs and lows," says Asalioglu. He anticipates that in the coming months, Russia will take more territory from Ukraine, reducing the country in size and importance on the European chessboard.

A united people

Some distance from the Red Square, at the famous Kyivskaya metro station, Asalioglu gently advises a group of friends: "Be careful with your camera flash. Too many flashes may attract the attention of co-passengers who can alert the police about suspicious activities."

But tourists will be tourists. Soon, there is a loud objection from the passengers about the camera flashes going off.

Kyivskaya metro station is named after the capital of Ukraine, the third largest republic within the erstwhile USSR. Eight decades ago, the soldiers of the Red Army fought their way into Ukraine and liberated the country from Nazi Germany's control. There are art galleries depicting this deep underground in Kyivskaya station, after a two-minute-long elevator ride. About 30 mosaics depict various aspects of life in Ukraine: the Black Sea sturgeon, women hard at work in fields, and dams being built. They signify the connection that makes Ukraine a part of the Russians' mental geography. The liberation war has been conflated with the military offensive against Ukraine.

Julia Pulekha (name changed to protect identity), a Ukrainian-origin Russian who hails from Kyiv, says her family has tried to avoid quarrels with the part of the family that continues to be in Ukraine. "I have never experienced any discrimination from citizens of the Russian Federation in the 10 years that I have been here. On the contrary, we were accepted as the dearest people on earth and I am very grateful for it. If it had been different, we would not have stayed," she says. Julia's grandparents continue to remain in Ukraine and they are determined not to leave home.

The war has not been just about two countries. On both sides, people with mixed ancestry and family ties to both sides have fought each other giving rise to bitter family feuds. Russians of Ukrainian origin have fought on the Russian side. "I don't have any expectation about the war. I just hope that it will end soon. I am focusing on my personal life here but I am worried about my grandparents in Ukraine," adds Julia.

A few stops away from Kyivskaya on the metro line is Mir (meaning peace in Russian). A five-minute walk away is Russia's largest mosque, the Jama, with a dome of gold and turquoise accents. Mustafa Kutukcu, the imam, presides over prayers for soldiers who hail from Dagestan, Chechnya, Ingushetia, and other Caucasian areas that are Muslim-dominated. Most Russians are adherents of Orthodox Christianity and nearly 20 million Russians are Muslims hailing from southern Russia and the Caucasian region. President Putin's narrative has presented the war as a collective effort supported by all parts of Russia.

Kutukcu is a Turkish-origin Russian. "Irrespective of our origin, the government regards all those who gave up their lives for Russia as martyrs. They have looked after the families of those who perished in the war," he says.

Between conversations with visitors and the faithful, soldiers come and hold his hands and ask him to pray for their safety as they take leave to fight on the front line with Ukraine.

> History shows that the Russians have never been defeated in the big wars. They won each time, because they viewed these big conflicts through the lens of history
>
> **SOTIRIS LIVAS**
> Teacher

Trump's outreach

At Russia's main international airports of Moscow and St. Petersburg, visitors are mostly from Asia, the Arab world, and Africa. Russia describes this as a reorientation of its state of affairs. "Our national emblem, the double-headed eagle, has two heads in two directions. One head was turned to the west, but the head that looks to the east had its eyes closed. That has now changed, as the eyes of that eagle have opened, and Russia is now looking at the east for its requirements," says Alikber K. Alikberov, director of the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russia's oldest think tank, which turned 200 years old in 2018.

At the airport though, the immigration clearance even for foreigners from the east often takes three to four hours. Passengers may also face "military incidents" that force last-moment changes in flight paths. When the drone attack took place, it hit a target near Moscow's main Sheremetyevo airport, and flights were diverted.

Before the afternoon festivities begin at the Red Square, the grand white and gold Financial University under the Russian Federation opened its intimidating Soviet-style auditorium for thinkers and analysts from Russia, India, China, Turkey, and countries of Central Asia to discuss Russia's response to Trump's outreach to the Kremlin.

This is against the backdrop of President Trump's confrontation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in February this year, over a U.S.-Ukraine mineral agreement. At that meeting, Vice President J.D. Vance called Zelenskyy "disrespectful" and accused him of being "ungrateful" for the support from the U.S.

Geopolitical thinker Margarita F. Mudrak, professor and chair of the board of the think tank Russian Association of International Cooperation in St. Petersburg, travelled in the U.S. at the height of the Cold War in the late 1960s and the early 1980s, when people-to-people contact between the Soviet Union and the western countries was not really widespread.

Mudrak speaks sternly, saying that the way Russians look at the war is not dependent on the position of one particular leader of the west. The war is about terminating security threats that had been festering on its borders for a long time, she says. "We know Trump. He is not a stable decision maker. The U.S. stopped sharing satellite navigation with Ukraine briefly, when they had to get Ukraine to agree to its terms and conditions on the minerals deal. But soon after the agreement was sealed, they resumed, which helps Ukraine aim its missiles at us," Mudrak says. She adds: "Trump is a businessman, not a strategic thinker. His aim is to secure critical minerals." She makes it clear that none of the territory gained by Russia will be given back to Ukraine.

Starting with 2014, Russia has gradually expanded its territory on the west. First it annexed Crimea and after the beginning of the 'Special Military Operation' on February 24, 2022, it has gained substantial amount of territory in eastern Ukraine (Donetsk, Luhanksk and other areas) that it has not given up despite continuous attack.

The conversation among the analysts and researchers spreads from the stately university that dates back to 1919 to a Caucasian café outside campus that serves a variety of potatoes and meat. Then Russian military strategist General Nikolae Plotnikov, asks, "Why is India so cautious? Sometimes we find other countries that do not have a record of friendship with Russia welcoming our ideas, but it is difficult to get India on board at times." He surrounds himself with young admirers and a security detail, and is a part of Russia's back-channel team in talks with the Trump administration. The Indian government has announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will not be attending the Victory Day celebrations in Moscow on May 9.

The group of about 15 analysts stops off at the Museum of the Great Patriotic War of 1812. Here, in the cold corridors, are objects that were captured from the defeated army of French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte in 1812, after the Russian population united under the commanders of Czar Alexander I.

"The Russians who visit this museum remind themselves that enemies have tried to attack them again and again. They tried in 1812 and during Hitler's time," says Sotiris Livas, a teacher of history and international politics from Athens. The current conflict, he says, is actually a war on NATO. "History shows that the Russians have never been defeated in the big wars. They won each time, because they viewed these big conflicts through the lens of history, and they have responded similarly, irrespective of whether Russia was under the Czars, the Communists, or the contemporary rulers of the Kremlin," says Livas.

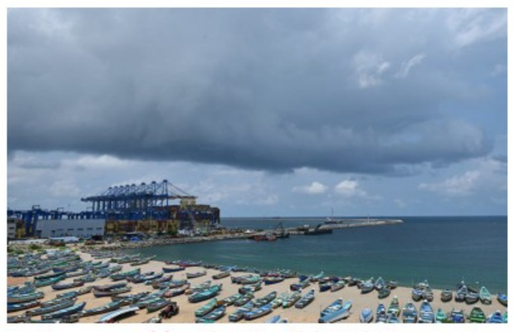
As he listens to Livas, Timofey, an 11th grader, responds: "Everyone has to remember our past as we have made sacrifices to safeguard our freedom."

Later in the evening, thin flakes of snow begin to cover every visible surface, including the AI-driven vehicles used by food-delivery companies. Asalioglu only half-jokes: "Russia is not about AI. It is about humans, and their strong will to fight. The days ahead will only be tougher for Ukraine."

Kallol Bhattacherjee was in Moscow to participate in the Xth International Meeting of intellectuals organised by the Institute of Oriental Studies, Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, MIRNAs and the A.M. Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Support Fund.

From Page One

Port economy will drive India's growth, says PM



Fresh opportunities: The PM said the Vizhinjam port is a symbol of new age development. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Noting that private sector participation has driven innovation and enhanced efficiency, he said that even a State government headed by a Communist regime in Kerala could find a private sector giant to be a trusted partner in a flagship infrastructure development project. Mr. Modi also wondered whether two prominent INDIA bloc leaders sharing the dais with him – Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Congress MP Shashi Tharoor – would cause discomfort in some quarters.

Reduced reliance on foreign ports

Terming the Vizhinjam port as a symbol of new age development, the Prime Minister said that the capacity of this transshipment hub would triple in the coming years, enabling the smooth arrival of some of the world's largest cargo ships. He also pointed out that 75% of India's transshipment operations were previously conducted at foreign ports, leading to significant revenue loss for the country. Stating that this situation is now set to change, he asserted that Indian money would now serve India, and the funds that once flowed outside the country would generate new economic opportunities within the country.

The Union Budget for the current financial year introduced a new policy to promote the construction of large ships in India, which will significantly boost the manufacturing sector. Noting the growth of the shipping and port infrastructure in the last 10 years, Mr. Modi said that two Indian ports are now ranked among the world's top 30, while India has improved its position on the Logistics Performance Index and stands among the top 20 countries in global shipbuilding.

India is also setting up a shipbuilding and repair cluster in Kochi, the Prime Minister said. Once completed, this cluster will create numerous new employment opportunities, providing Kerala's local talent and youth with a platform for growth, he said.

Mr. Modi invoked Adi Shankara and Saint Thomas Church in his inaugural speech. If Adi Shankara was instrumental in awakening the consciousness of the nation, whose efforts laid the foundation for a unified and spiritually enlightened Bharat, the Saint Thomas Church showed that Kerala has always been a land of harmony and tolerance, he said.

SC grants relief to J&K family facing deportation

The Centre had issued a notification on April 25, revoking the visas of Pakistan nationals in India and giving a specific timeline for their deportation.

The petitioners claimed that they have Indian passports and Aadhaar cards.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta submitted that the family could approach the authorities with their papers.

Though Mr. Mehta gave an oral undertaking against taking any coercive action against the petitioners, the Bench took a humane approach by recording in its order that the family should not face any immediate drastic measures to spare them from living with a sense of uncertainty and in fear.

National Herald case: court issues notice to Sonia, Rahul

Special Judge highlights the right of the accused to be heard during cognisance of chargesheet; court had a week ago declined issuing notice due to some missing documents in ED's complaint

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Friday issued a notice to Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi regarding the National Herald money laundering case, which is under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate.

Special Judge Vishal Gogne of the Rouse Avenue court stated that Ms. Gandhi and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Mr. Gandhi, along with all other accused persons, have the "right to be heard" during the cognisance of the chargesheet filed by the central agency.

The court further highlighted the importance of contemporary jurisprudence related to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and maintained that the "right to be heard at any stage of the proceedings breathes life into the right to fair trial".

The case involves Congress giving a ₹90 crore loan to Associated Journals Ltd, which was transferred to Young Indian for ₹50 lakh. PTI

"Consequently, the prosecuting agency – the ED – does not come to any detriment if the accused is permitted to make submissions on the question of cognisance. In this adherence to the principles of fair hearing, the right to be heard is not inconsistent with any of the powers vested in the ED for investigation or the presumptions as well as burden of proof stipulated under the PMLA," the court added.

The matter has been listed for consideration on May 8.

The development comes a week after a Delhi court refused to issue any notice to the accused in the case citing absence of the relevant documents from the complaint filed by the ED. It added that the court must first be convinced before issuing any such notice.

The case originates from the assignment of a ₹90 crore loan advanced by the Congress party to Associated Journals Ltd (AJL), the owner of the *National Herald*, to Young Indian for a consideration of ₹50 lakh. It has been alleged that there was misappropriation of assets of over ₹2,000 crore in an equity transaction. The compliant in the case was filed by senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, who alleged a criminal conspiracy involving several prominent political figures, including Ms. Gandhi, her son, the late Motilal Vohra, the late Oscar Fernandes, Suman Dubey, Sam Pitroda, and a private company, Young Indian.

The ED had filed the prosecution complaint against the Gandhis as well as Mr. Pitroda and others on April 15 this year.

NEET 2024: NMC orders suspension of 26 MBBS students

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The latest directive comes just ahead of the NEET-UG 2025 examination scheduled for Sunday

In a major crackdown on irregularities in the NEET-UG 2024 examination, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the National Testing Agency (NTA) have uncovered multiple instances of malpractice, including impersonation and the use of leaked question papers.

Following the probe, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has directed medical colleges and institutions to immediately suspend 26 MBBS students found complicit in the violations. Additionally, admissions of 14 other students for the academic year 2024-25 have been cancelled, according to a senior official in the Union Health Ministry.

"The gravity of these offences threatens the credibility of the medical education system. The Commission has taken a serious view of the matter," the official told *The Hindu*.

The latest directive comes just ahead of the NEET-UG 2025 examination, scheduled for May 4.

Unfair means

The NTA, which conducted NEET-UG 2024, had earlier flagged several cases as "Unfair Means (UFM)", which were reviewed by its dedicated UFM Committee. Based on the committee's findings, 42 candidates have been debarred from appearing in NEET-UG for three years - 2024, 2025, and 2026 - while nine others have been barred for two years, covering 2025 and 2026.

In addition, the candidature of 215 candidates remains under review as the investigation continues.

A senior government official said the NMC maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward academic fraud.

Security forces recovering weapons and explosives during a search operation in an area in Manipur on Thursday. PTI

Security heightened in Manipur ahead of conflict anniversary

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/GUWAHATI

Security in Manipur has been heightened amid calls for a shutdown to mark the second anniversary of the ethnic conflict between Kuki-Zo and Meitei communities that broke out on May 3, 2023.

Security personnel intensified patrolling in the "buffer zone" - the foothills around the Meitei-majority Imphal Valley - and frisking of vehicles in vulnerable locations in the Valley as well as in the adjoining Churachandpur and Kangpokpi hill districts dominated by the Kuki-Zo people.

At least two students' organisations belonging to the Kuki-Zo group of tribes called for a shutdown of all educational institutions, shops, and commercial establishments on Saturday, which an apex tribal organisation said would be observed as 'Separation Day'.

Two years after the ethnic violence began in Manipur, about half of the 6,020 weapons looted from police armouries have been recovered, a senior official said. Since February 13, when President's Rule was imposed, 1,750 police weapons have been recovered, bringing the total to 3,000, up from 1,200 in September 2024. In March 2025, Governor Ajay Bhalla had urged those with illegal arms to surrender them.

Primary failing of SECC was that proforma did not have a list of castes: NCBC chief

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

One of the primary failings of the 2011 Socio Economic and Caste Census conducted by the then-United Progressive Alliance government was that the proforma for it was riddled with errors and the government had not bothered to create a list of castes across the country, Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes said on Friday.

Mr. Ahir said, "This is why citizens entered whatever they wanted in the field of caste and the survey ended up showing lakhs and lakhs of castes, which is an absurdity. There should be a list of castes first."

While Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes across the country have been enumerated in every decadal Census in independent India, the forthcoming Census with caste enumeration will be the first time an opportunity will arise for the country's Other Backward Classes to be enumerated.

> Caste count is what people wanted, and the govt. has heard them. It was not rushed and is part of its plan for social justice
>
> **HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR**
> Chairperson of the National Commission for Backward Classes

Mr. Ahir told *The Hindu* on Friday, "The government has taken a very well-thought decision on the caste enumeration. This is what the people wanted, and the government has heard them. It was not rushed and is part of its long-term plan for social justice. The task of listing all castes and enumerating them is a challenging one but I have full confidence that the government will carry this out honestly and correctly."

The Hindu reported earlier that anthropologists and populations scientists, within and outside the government, have stressed on the importance of listing out castes before enumeration to avoid the same mistakes made in the 2011 caste census.

Apart from the 1931 Census of India, which recorded over 4,147 castes and sub-castes, there is no comprehensive repository of all castes and communities across the country. The only public resource compiled by a government agency comes from the People of India project of the Anthropological Survey of India, which had tabulated 4,635 "communities", including SC, ST, and OBC groups and General Category castes and communities.

The NCBC chief added, "The decision to enumerate castes follows a series of decisions the government has taken for the benefit of Backward Classes."

UGC sets up team to probe deaths of KIIT students

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR/NEW DELHI

The Nepal government has called for a thorough investigation into the death of a Nepali student, Prisa Sah, 18, who was found dead in her hostel room on the campus of Bhubaneswar-based Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) University on Thursday. The university had recently come under scrutiny following another suicide of a 20-year-old Nepali girl on February 16.

The University Grants Commission has constituted a fact-finding team to examine the circumstances surrounding the deaths. The National Human Rights Commission also has taken *suo motu* cognisance of the incident.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs of India stated that India takes safety of international students "very seriously". The MEA assured that it is in close contact with Nepali authorities, the Odisha government, and KIIT management to ensure real-time coordination.

Those in distress can seek help at 011-40769002.

Can ethics keep pace with the rapid evolution of AI?

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In theory, it is already possible for an individual to create facial recognition software using Artificial Intelligence – software that could scrape billions of images from the Internet without permission, recognise faces, and identify individuals. Some of the large AI tools today are capable of doing this, but they refrain for ethical reasons. In that sense, ethics is currently woven into AI, but that may not remain the case as smaller, decentralised AI platforms emerge to meet market demand.

AI can be used for surveillance, for generating deepfakes, and for spreading disinformation – all areas already rife with ethical concerns. It can also embed and automate bias, especially in hiring. The unspoken truth is that hiring is often biased. AI can enable this subtly, simply by tweaking a few parameters.

There is also an innate human need to always know whether one is interacting with a human or a machine. Yet it is often in a company's interest to conceal that the engagement is with AI. For instance, people may be fine living in homes designed by AI, but they need to know that. They may be far less comfortable reading novels entirely written by AI, even if they are works of pulp fiction. In the near future, publishers may release AI-generated books created in a single day, while actively hiding that fact.

This raises the need for an industry standard to govern such practices. But is that even possible? Can ethics keep pace with the rapid evolution of AI? Ethics, after all, is a broad, ambiguous set of rules based on what we know. The future will present wholly unfamiliar scenarios. Who, then, will set the ethical rules for what is yet to come?

We like to talk about ethics because it represents a part of morality that remains outside the purview of the State. We want to be seen as good people – while keeping the law and the government out of our businesses. But that is also why ethics lacks teeth. Morality, outside religion and the law, is just statement of intent.

Legality, by contrast, is a formalised version of ethics – those ideas a society has agreed upon and encoded into law. But legality implies regulation, and regulation implies government. So, how willing will businesses be to articulate ethical standards, knowing that doing so may invite legal oversight? These are some of the questions that will be discussed during *The Hindu* Huddle session titled "AI for all? The dream of a democratised and ethical technology".

The participants are Astha Kapoor, co-founder, Aapti Institute; Kalika Bali, senior principal researcher, Microsoft Research, India; and Tanvi Lall, Strategy, People+AI, and the conversation will be moderated by Manu Joseph, author, columnist, and screenwriter.

The Hindu Huddle will be held on May 9 and 10 in Bengaluru. If you have any questions that you would like our moderator to ask the panellists, write to us at huddle@thehindu.co.in.

The Hindu Huddle 2025 is presented by Sami-Sabinsa Group

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Licensed stamp vendors are public servants, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday held that licensed stamp vendors perform a highly important public duty and come within the definition of 'public servant' under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The judgment by a Bench headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala was based on an appeal filed by a licensed stamp vendor, Aman Bhatia, who was convicted by a trial court under the anti-corruption law for demanding ₹2 extra for a ₹10 stamp paper 22 years ago in the national capital.

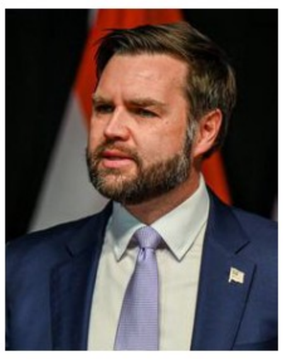
The Anti-Corruption Bureau acted on a complaint by a customer and laid a "trap" for him in December 2003.

The vendor was found guilty by the trial court and sentenced under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The Delhi High Court had confirmed that the evidence established his culpability beyond reasonable doubt. It had further held that licensed vendors were indeed public servants.

The SC agreed with the High Court's finding that stamp vendors were public servants but set aside the conviction of Mr. Bhatia on the ground that the prosecution did not prove the allegation of demand for illegal gratification and acceptance of bribe beyond reasonable doubt.

'Worried' about tensions between nuclear powers, says U.S. Vice-President

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI


J.D. Vance

The United States is in "close contact" with India and Pakistan, according to comments attributed to senior U.S. officials on Friday expressing concerns about rising tensions following the Pahalgam terror attack.

Statements reported from politicians and officials including U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance's office, Secretary of State Marco Rubio, and Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth called on India to ensure its responses do not lead to a larger conflict. Mr. Vance has also recommended Pakistan to "hunt down" the terrorists operating from the territory it controls.

Alongside security concerns, comments attributed to the Vice-President's office also touched upon trade, referencing recent talks furthered by a high-level visit to India. While calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi a "tough negotiator", these reported remarks criticised India for allegedly "taking advantage" of the U.S. for a "long time" and "closing off" its market to U.S. agricultural products.

The reported comments weighing in on the situation follow earlier statements attributed to Mr. Rubio and Mr. Hegseth, indicating the U.S. is watching the situation closely but maintaining a degree of ambiguity about its position.

'In close contact'

"We have obviously been in close contact with our friends in India and Pakistan," Mr. Vance said in an interview with U.S. television channel *Fox News*, adding expressions of worry about tensions between the two nuclear powers. "Our hope here is that India responds to this terrorist attack [in Pahalgam] in a way that doesn't lead to a broader regional conflict," he explained.

"We hope that Pakistan, to the extent that they are responsible, cooperates with India to make sure that the terrorists sometimes operating in their territory, are hunted down and dealt with," Mr. Vance added, without specifically blaming Pakistan or The Resistance Front (TRF) terrorist group that initially claimed responsibility for the attack.

During the *Fox News* interview, Mr. Vance also suggested the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) being negotiated would "rebalance" the U.S.-India trade relationship.

"The Indian market is effectively closed off to American farmers," Mr. Vance said, referring to India's non-tariff barriers and restricted market access for American grain, meat, farm products, and dairy, including GMO foods. "What our India deal [BTA] will do fundamentally, is open up India to American technology. It will open up India to American farmers, create more good American jobs," he added.

The External Affairs Ministry did not offer a response to Mr. Vance's comments.

Mr. Rubio, who spoke to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif earlier this week, had condemned the attack and called for both countries to "work together to de-escalate the situation".

Mr. Hegseth was reportedly more unequivocal about U.S. support for India's right to defend itself, according to a readout by the Defence Ministry in Delhi after he spoke to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

In a post on X, Mr. Hegseth expressed condolences for those killed in the "heinous terrorist attack". "I offered my strong support. We stand with India and its great people," the post concluded.

Teach Pakistan a lesson for Pahalgam attack: Congress

The masterminds and perpetrators of the attack must face full consequences of their actions, says Congress Working Committee; it demands a clear timeline for every stage of the caste census

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Congress leaders during the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting at the party headquarters in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Urging the Narendra Modi government to "isolate and penalise Pakistan for its continued export of terror", the Congress Working Committee (CWC) on Friday insisted on a "time-bound accountability into the serious security and intelligence lapses" in Pahalgam, located in one of the most heavily guarded regions of the country.

The party's highest decision-making body also demanded a "clear timeline" for every stage of the caste census, reiterating its stance on removing the "arbitrary ceiling" of 50% on reservation for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, and the Other Backward Classes and having quotas for these social groups in private educational institutes.

Former Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi, while addressing a joint press conference with senior leaders on the proceedings of the CWC, kicked off a controversy by demanding proof for the earlier surgical strikes.

Two resolutions

Earlier, the CWC adopted two separate resolutions in a meeting chaired by party chief Mallikarjun Kharge and attended by former party chief Sonia Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, and other general secretaries, including Jairam Ramesh and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

"The entire country awaits accountability, answers, and justice. In the face of such an unforgivable provocation, the Congress believes this is not a time for politics but a moment that calls for unity, strength, and national resolve. We must rise above partisan divides and send out an unambiguous message that India stands together, and will not be broken," the resolution said.

"This is a time for demonstrating our collective will as a nation to teach Pakistan a lesson and curb terrorism decisively. The masterminds and perpetrators of this cowardly attack must face the full consequences of their actions. The Congress Party urges the Government of India to act with firmness, strategic clarity, and international coordination to isolate and penalise Pakistan for its continued export of terror into our territory," the CWC noted.

In the closed-door meeting, Mr. Gandhi said the government must find out the terrorists and punish them, while stressing the need to back the government's action.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Kharge said the government had not come out with any clear strategy to deal with the situation arising out of the Pahalgam terror attack, even as he asserted that the entire Opposition was backing the Centre on the issue.

The CWC resolution on the Pahalgam terror attack was moved by Randeep Surjewala, while Sachin Pilot moved the resolution on social justice and caste census.

Expressing "surprise" at the timing of the caste census announcement, Mr. Kharge credited Mr. Gandhi for the government's decision to conduct a caste survey.

INBRIEF

Kashmiris unfairly targeted in massive crackdown: Mirwaiz

Hurriyat chairman and Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, in his Friday sermon at the Jama Masjid in Srinagar, said Kashmiris were being targeted over the Pahalgam terror attack despite unanimous condemnation of the incident. Describing the killings of 26 civilians in the attack as "a heart-rending and horrendous event", the Mirwaiz said: "Despite unanimous condemnation, it is the people of Kashmir who are being held to account and targeted." He also appealed to the government "to revisit the policy" on repatriation of people to Pakistan as it is a "humanitarian issue".

Japan expresses support for India in fighting terrorism

The Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, Nukaga Fukushiro, conveyed his country's full cooperation to India in fighting terrorism as he condemned the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians, mostly tourists, dead. On a visit to India, Mr. Fukushiro held bilateral talks with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla as he expressed solidarity with India in eradicating terrorism, according to an official statement. In the current global scenario, the friendship between India and Japan is essential for global peace, prosperity and stability, he said. PTI

Pakistan armed forces hold a series of exercises

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Amid expectations of potential Indian military action following the Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistan's armed forces are conducting several exercises near the Line of Control (LoC) and in the Arabian Sea.

Concurrently, Pakistan has closed several air traffic routes between Lahore and Islamabad and issued multiple "Nav Area" warnings along its coastline, as some officials reportedly caution about an "imminent" attack by India.

The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) is holding three distinct exercises, while the Pakistan Army is conducting "Exercise Hammer Strike" near the LoC, and the Pakistan Navy is engaged in a series of drills in the Arabian Sea, proximate to where the Indian Navy is also carrying out firing exercises.

High on messaging

"The exercise is messaging to India that they are sitting close and ready to move in should India do something," an official monitoring the situation observed. The area warnings and air traffic closures are interpreted as measures to keep airspace clear for early warning against potential Indian aerial action, the official added.

The PAF exercises conducted over the past few days include "Zarb-e-Haideri" by its Southern Air Command, "Fiza-e-Badar" in its Northern Air Command, and "Lalkar-e-Momin" under its Central Air Command. These involved frontline fighter jets like the F-16, J-10, and JF-17. Pakistan has also released videos showcasing JF-17 jets equipped with the PL-15 Beyond Visual Range air-to-air missile acquired from China.

An Indian Army post near Sainth, the last village near the Line of Control, in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday. AFP

Pak. Army exercise

Furthermore, the Pakistan Army's 1 Strike Corps, a key offensive formation, is conducting "Exercise Hammer Strike" in the Gujranwala area opposite Punjab. Pakistan's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) stated on Thursday that Army chief General Asim Munir visited the Tilla Field Firing Ranges near Jhelum to witness high-intensity field training by the Mangla Strike Corps.

These exercises are taking place against the backdrop of heavy mobilisation of military equipment, including artillery, tanks, and other assets. Pakistan has also reportedly deployed the SH-15, the 155mm, 52-calibre self-propelled howitzer it recently acquired from China.

In the aerial domain, Pakistan has issued area warnings or NOTAMs (Notice to Airmen) almost daily since the Pahalgam attack. Both India and Pakistan had issued warnings for exercises in the Arabian Sea, with notified zones just 85 nautical miles apart, as previously reported by *The Hindu*.

India notified naval firing exercises at four locations off the Gujarat coast from April 30 to May 3, while Pakistan notified naval drills from April 30 to May 2, along with additional notifications for missile and gun firing exercises in the Northern Arabian Sea.

Skirmishes across LoC continue for 7th day in J&K

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The Army said on Friday that multiple locations in five districts along the Line of Control (LoC) came under small arms fire from the Pakistani Army for the seventh consecutive day.

The attacks took place on Thursday night. "Pakistan Army posts resorted to unprovoked attacks with small arms fire from across the Line of Control opposite Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, Naushera, and Akhnoor areas of the Union Territory of J&K," an Army spokesperson said. The Indian Army responded in a calibrated and proportionate manner, the spokesperson added.

Punjab advised to release water to Haryana

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

Tensions rose between Punjab and Haryana over water sharing on Friday, even as the Union government advised Punjab to execute the Bhakra Beas Management Board's (BBMB) decision to release an extra 4,500 cusecs of water from the Bhakra dam to meet urgent water needs in Haryana and some parts of Rajasthan.

In New Delhi, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan to discuss the implementation of BBMB's decision that the extra water be released for an eight-day period. The meeting was attended by senior officers of the Union government, and the State governments of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana, which all draw water from the Bhakra, Pong, and Ranjit Sagar dams, with the distribution regulated by the BBMB.

'India poised to become the capital of MICE tourism'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India is poised to become the global capital of MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) tourism, Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said on Friday while inaugurating a two-day seminar organised by the Indian Exhibition Industry Association here.

The Tourism Minister said the country stands at the threshold of strong opportunities in this sector.

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website:www.osmcl.nic.in; Email: proc.osmcl.od@nic.in
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives
Notification No.3532/OSMCL/2025 Date : 28.04.2025

NOTICE INVITING E-Tender for Implementation of NAT testing facility with ID methodology having available technologies covering 45 Blood Centre's of the State of Odisha on PPP mode

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible bidders for supply, installation & commissioning of Equipment as per the particulars mentioned below:

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL/2024-25/ ID NAT SERVICES PPP/05	E-tender for Implementation of NAT testing facility with ID methodology having available technologies covering 45 Blood Centre's of the State of Odisha on PPP mode	Rs.5,900/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	29/04/2025, 5 PM	
2.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	06/05/2025, 11.30 AM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		13/05/2025, 3 PM	02/06/2025, 5 PM
4.	Date& time of Online Technical bid Opening	04/06/2025, 3 PM	
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. The Authority reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.
CAD-278
Managing Director, OSMCL
OIPR-10112/11/0026/2526

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, TIRUPATI
(An Autonomous Institute Under Ministry of Education., Govt. of India)
Yerpedu Mandal – 517619, Tirupati.

Corrigendum
Admission to Ph.D. Program, AUGUST- 2025

The last date for submission of online application forms for the PhD program in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth & Climate Sciences, and Humanities & Social Sciences discipline has been extended till 07 May 2025. For the updated educational qualifications, eligibility criteria, selection procedure of Ph.D., please visit: **https://www.iisertirupati.ac.in/admission-phd/**

Advt. No. 17/2025/IISER-T/Admissions/02-05-2025
Sd/-
Director

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office:- PSEB H.O. Building, The Mall, Patiala
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Contact No. 96461-18773

TENDER ENQUIRY No.: QQ-2363/PO-P

Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 950 MT Galvanized Stranded Steel (GSS) Wire Grade 5 size 7/3.15 mm as per PSPCL specification no QQ-2363/PSPCL/PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 03.05.2025 onwards.
NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C 324/25
76155/12/4197/2023/44045

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF RAJASTHAN, KISHANGARH
Reaccredited to Grade A++ by NAAC
Category-I Status by UGC

Advt. No.CURAJ/R/F.165/2025/38 Date : 04.04.2025

Notice Inviting Tender
Construction of Transit Mess & Dining Hall, Hostels, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Indoor Sports Complex & University Main Gate
(Cost ₹ 111.45 Cr.)

Percentage rate composite bids in EPC Mode - III basis are invited from eligible bidders working in any Central / State Departments or Government / Semi Govt. undertaking for works. Interested bidders may apply for the said tender on the CPP Portal www.eprocure.gov.in.
Last date for submission of Bid is 16.05.2025 up to 05:00 PM.
For more details, visit: **www.curaj.ac.in.**
Registrar

ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT
(APSDMA)

e-Tender Notification No.05 & 21 APSDMA/2025 Dt: 01.05.2025
Tenders (17 Numbers) are called for Supply of WRE, CSSR, MFR & CBRN equipments to APSDRF. The details can be seen in the websites.
Download start from Date:**06.05.2025 (11:00 AM)**, Last date for Application Date: **12.05.2025 (04.00 PM)**. Website - **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.apsdma.ap.gov.in**
DIPR 4084PP/CL, Dt: 02/05/2025
Sd/- Director (DM) & Managing Director, APSDMA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK
kerala IT EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

RFP No : ETPK/IT/RFP/2025-26/01
Proposals are invited from qualified agencies for the supply, installation, and maintenance of digital screens for advertising on a rental basis at Technopark Phase I and Phase III campuses, Thiruvananthapuram.
For further details, please visit **www.technopark.org/tenders**
Date: 03-05-2025
Trivandrum
Chief Executive Officer
Technopark
(D3/367/2025/I&PRD)

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(TW WING), NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
PHONE: 0291-2742343, FAX: 0291-2741772

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Short term Techno-commercial and Price e-Bids are invited for 33 KV line work as detailed here under:-

Tender No.	Name of Work	UBN No.
TNTW-739	"Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 11KV line on 33 KV insulation (9.5Km OH Line+1.5Km UG cable), 11 KV Bay and Construction of 11/0.4 KV 01 no. 315 KVA sub-station for temporary NDS connection of Powergrid for construction of 765/400 KV GSS Sanwata, under Sub-Division Fatehgarh, Jaisalmer circle against deposit work on turnkey basis."	JVV2526WSOB0088

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening etc are available on our website at **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl** and also at **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.** The bidders, in their own interest are requested to read very carefully the tender documents before submitting the bid only through on line on website **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.**
NOTE: Interested bidders please note that in future any other notices /information regarding amendment /corrigendum/addendum/dates extension of bid submission etc for above tender will only be available on website **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl.**
Raj.Samwad/C/25/1629
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (TW)
बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

INBRIEF

ITBP team scales Mt. Makalu, fifth highest peak in the world

The Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has successfully scaled Mt. Makalu – the world's fifth highest peak, at an altitude of 8,485 metres above sea level – the China-border guarding force said on Friday. The ascent to the Himalayan peak in Nepal was made on April 19, it said. The International Mountaineering Expedition to Mt. Makalu and Mt. Annapurna (8,091 m) was flagged off from Delhi on March 21. "It was a historic twin summit attempt – the first of its kind in ITBP history. Both peaks were being attempted for the first time by the force, adding to the challenge and legacy of this mission. Both peaks are in Nepal," the ITBP said. Led by Deputy Commandant Anoop Kumar Negi and Nihas Suresh as deputy leader, the 12-member team was divided into two groups of six climbers each.

Ramdev tells court he will not make any offensive remark

Yoga guru Baba Ramdev on Friday gave an undertaking in the Delhi High Court that he will not issue any disparaging statement or publish on social media, posts similar to his "sharbat jihad" remark against Hamdard's Rooh Afza. The court asked Mr. Ramdev's counsel to file an affidavit during the day. A similar undertaking was also tendered by Mr. Ramdev's Patanjali Foods Ltd. The court passed the order while dealing with a lawsuit by Hamdard National Foundation India against Mr. Ramdev and his Patanjali Foods Ltd. He alleged that the money earned from Hamdard's Rooh Afza was used to build madrasas and mosques.

Ministers stress need for inclusive global discourse

Addressing the Global Media Dialogue at WAVES, Jaishankar and Vaishnaw call for cultural revival; member nations adopt declaration affirming commitment to diversity, global media cooperation

Devesh K. Pandey
MUMBAI

Anchored in the principles of creativity, culture, and collaboration, the Global Media Dialogue 2025 aims to foster a technology-driven pluralism and democratised international system, said Union Ministers S. Jaishankar and Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday.

Addressing the event on the second day of the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES), the Ministers underscored the need to move beyond past structures shaped by colonialism and power politics, towards a more inclusive global discourse. Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting L. Murugan also participated in the deliberations, which drew delegates, ambassadors, and Ministers from over 60 countries.

Conceived as a government-to-government platform, the Dialogue seeks to harness the transformative potential of the media and entertainment sector for global harmony and cultural exchange.

Mr. Jaishankar, in his address, emphasised the cultural dimensions of geopolitical transformation. "Pluralism, long suppressed by colonial and great power dominance, must find renewed expression. As we democratise the international system, it is imperative not only to assert political and economic independence, but also to give voice to our traditions, heritage, and creativity," the External Affairs Minister said.

Charting course: Union Ministers S. Jaishankar and Ashwini Vaishnaw at the Global Media Dialogue in Mumbai. PTI

Railways, Communications, and IT Minister Mr. Vaishnaw highlighted the evolving dynamics of content creation and consumption. "The global media and entertainment industry is valued at approximately $3 trillion, but its real worth lies in the empathy it fosters and the futures it helps us envision," he said. Reiterating the Dialogue's thematic anchors – creativity, culture, and collaboration – Mr. Vaishnaw called for enabling frameworks that support local storytelling, intellectual property enforcement, and cultural preservation. "Local content and cultural forms must be promoted to strengthen cross-border ties. Nothing meaningful occurs in isolation - collaboration is central to collective progress," he added.

Meanwhile, member nations participating in the Dialogue formally adopted the "WAVES Declaration", affirming their commitment to promoting cultural diversity, responsible use of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, and enhanced global cooperation in the media and entertainment sector. The Declaration recognised the sector's vital role in fostering global harmony and pledged to bridge the digital divide through inclusive and ethical media practices. The document emphasised reducing bias, democratising content creation, and preserving cultural heritage while promoting fair and innovative markets.

A key outcome of the Dialogue was consensus on facilitating global collaboration to strengthen creativity, innovation, and cross-cultural understanding. The Declaration underscored the responsibility of governments in fostering peace and dialogue in a rapidly globalising media landscape.

Concerns over the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation were raised by several member states, who advocated for greater emphasis on "responsible journalism". The Declaration responded by calling for collaborative measures to promote media integrity, fact-based reporting, and ethical advertising.

A woman and her three children died after a tree fell on their house in the Jaffarpur area of southwest Delhi. AMAN RAJ

Four killed in house collapse as heavy rain batters Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A 28-year-old woman and her three children, the youngest just seven months old, were killed in the early hours of Friday when their house collapsed in the Jaffarpur area of southwest Delhi following heavy rain and strong winds reaching up to 80 kmph. According to the Delhi Police, a tree had fallen on the structure, resulting in the fatalities. The woman's husband sustained minor injuries and is reported to be in stable condition.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced an ex-gratia compensation of ₹25 lakh for the bereaved family.

The downpour led to widespread waterlogging across the city, causing traffic congestion and power disruptions in several localities as trees and branches brought down overhead cables.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Delhi recorded 77 mm of rainfall over the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 a.m. on Friday, most of which (60 mm) occurred between 2.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

This is the second highest rainfall since 1901, for a 24-hour period in May for Delhi, as per the IMD.

Attributing the infrastructural challenges to the previous Aam Aadmi Party administration, Ms. Gupta said, "Waterlogging is not just a seasonal concern but a result of long-standing structural neglect. Immediate steps are being undertaken to address the issue, and nodal officers have been appointed for each affected location."

SC orders return of Ph.D. scholar Ramadas to TISS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday allowed Ph.D. scholar and Left student leader Ramadas K.S. to be reinstated in the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) while reducing his two-year suspension for alleged misconduct to the period already undergone.

A Bench headed by Justice Dipankar Datta gave relief to Mr. Ramadas, who had challenged his suspension and ban from entering any TISS campus. A TISS-empowered committee on April 17, 2024 suspended Mr. Ramadas from the institute for two years and debarred his entry across all its campuses.

The Bench noted the submissions of advocate Rajeev Kumar Panday, appearing for TISS, and perused the documents which prompted the committee to suspend the scholar for two years. Mr. Panday argued that the Bombay High Court was correct in not interfering with the suspension. However, the court took note of the fact that Mr. Ramadas was doing Ph.D. from the institution and should be allowed to conclude it.

"... On the 366th day of legal proceedings since approaching the High Court, I am officially a student again – from Today – at the very institution that denied me education 380 days ago," Mr. Ramadas was reported to have posted on social media.

Indian scientists help develop brain-computer interface that aids movement of people struggling due to paralysis

Ramya Kannan
CHENNAI

Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) have achieved a significant breakthrough in assistive technology for individuals with paralysis. The lead author of a scientific paper on the project, an Indian who grew up in Chennai, Nikhilesh Natraj, says they have developed a brain-computer interface (BCI) that allows a paralysed man to control a robotic arm simply by imagining the movements he wishes to execute.

Dr. Natraj is a neuroscientist and neural engineer at the Weill Institute for Neurosciences, UCSF. "Here, our team has developed a framework that allows a paralysed man to control a robotic arm for 7 months straight using just his thoughts alone, with minimal calibration," he says. The results of this study were published in a recent volume of the peer-reviewed journal *Cell*.

Developing stability

To start with, the team had to understand the neural patterns behind movement. The key was discovering how activity shifts in the brain day to day as a study participant repeatedly imagined making specific movements. Once a machine learning/AI algorithm was programmed to account for those shifts, it worked for months at a time.

Karunesh Ganguly, professor of neurology and a member of the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences who studied how patterns

Nikhilesh Natraj

of brain activity in animals represent specific movements, saw that these patterns changed day to day. If one assumed that the same thing was happening in humans, these changes would explain why the participants' BCIs became unstable and quickly lost the ability to recognise movement patterns. The team worked with an individual who had been paralysed by a stroke and could not speak or move, a note on the university website stated.

The study participant had tiny sensors implanted on the surface of his brain that could pick up brain activity when he imagined moving. The sensors do not send pulses to the brain, but only read out the intent to move from the movement regions of the brain, Dr. Natraj explains.

Signal processing

To see whether and how his brain patterns changed over time, the participant was asked to imagine moving different parts of his body. The BCI recorded the brain's representations of these movements through the sensors.

Analysing the patterns in the high-dimensional sensor data, the team found that while the structure of movement representations stayed the same, their locations in the high-dimensional data shifted slightly from day to day. By tracking these shifts and predicting how it would evolve, the team was able to overcome instability in BCI systems and developed an end-to-end signal processing and AI framework.

The participant was then tasked with imagining himself making simple movements with his fingers, hands or thumbs while the sensors recorded his brain activity to train the AI. The read out signals were then decoded to actuate a robotic arm. Initially, he practised on a virtual robot arm that gave him crucial feedback on the accuracy of his visualisations, helping him refine his direction and control.

Eventually, the participant managed to control a real-world robotic arm executing the action. He managed to open a cabinet, retrieve a cup, and hold it under a water dispenser – simple tasks but those that can be life-changing for those living with paralysis.

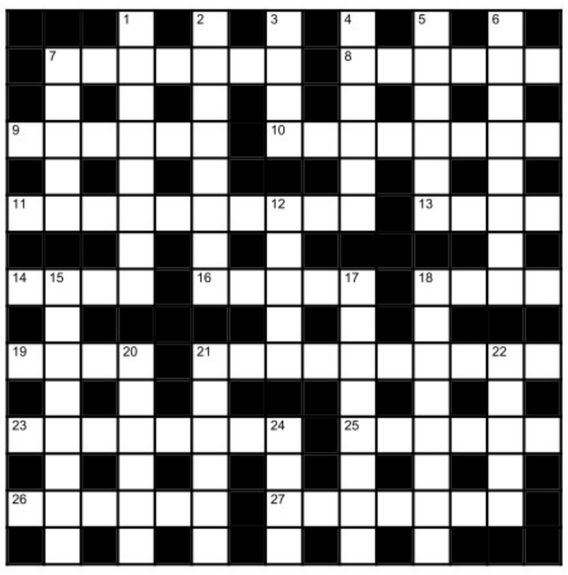
Having established that it can be done is the first stage, a lot more work needs to be put into refining the technique and for it to be deployed among people who have paralysis, Dr. Natraj says. Especially, the system should be able to work fluidly in complex scenarios with many distractions, such as when going to a crowded grocery store, he adds.

TH CROSSWORD + 14475

(set by Saral)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 New to setting? Finally check grammar back in grid (7)
8 Persuading son "No rushing" (6)
9 Drop wrong decree (6)
10 Break small incomplete pedestal near emergency room (8)
11 Dull rough walls at last repainted (10)
13 Kids playing in slide (4)
14 Cry with ache in leg primarily (4)
16 Prepares firstly macaron pastries without topping (5)
18 Disheartened soldiers returning for wine (4)
19 From the middle pull mynah's bone (4)
21 Altering drafts? No from the beginning only helvetica, etc. (3,2,5)
23 Basil, say a visionary leaving Norway (8)
25 Irritates press fellows in the end stalking model (6)
26 Perhaps enter union for possession (6)
27 Spooner says "Spoil sweetheart for peace" (7)

Down

1 English article about gangster is subtle (8)
2 Drive immediately with acumen essentially (8)
3 Runners on snow jumps losing pressure (4)
4 One girl escaped from building bombed in capital (6)
5 Representatives of American men (6)
6 Rain tore plastic in the front (8)
7 French city checked by European relative (5)
12 "Signed link, not opening"-Editor (5)
15 Angry general crossing line, one provoking a reaction (8)
17 Gunmen at first seen hiding near abandoned old store (8)
18 Etiquette for cool tavern originally changed (8)
20 Covering republican involved in love affair (6)
21 Shorten the name possibly for hymn (6)
22 Try right away to include everyone in record (5)
24 Mainly cook adding a piece of halibut fish (4)

SUDOKU

3			7					
2	1							
9		5	2	6				3
		9			2	3	4	1
4								8
1	5	6	4			9		
5				1	6	8		9
							1	6
					7			2

No.SS6508 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		A	R	O	M	A	T	H	E	R	A	P	Y	
P		R		N		S		E		H		O		U
R	O	B	O	T		T	R	A	G	E	D	I	E	S
O		O		H		O		R		N		N		H
B	U	R	G	E	O	N		S	K	I	T	T	L	E
O		E		G		I		E		U				R
N	U	T	H	O	U	S	E		S	M	U	T	S	
O		U				H		P				R		I
	A	M	I	S	S		F	R	A	C	T	I	O	N
M				T		U		I		H		E		F
A	L	S	O	R	A	N		C	H	A	N	N	E	L
F		E		E		R		E		O		N		A
I	M	P	A	T	I	E	N	T		T	A	I	N	T
A		O		C		A		A		I		A		E
	M	Y	T	H	O	L	O	G	I	C	A	L		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	7	4	5	2	6	8	3	9
5	6	2	9	3	8	7	4	1
8	3	9	4	1	7	2	5	6
2	8	6	7	4	9	3	1	5
9	5	3	1	8	2	6	7	4
7	4	1	3	6	5	9	2	8
3	2	5	6	9	1	4	8	7
6	1	8	2	7	4	5	9	3
4	9	7	8	5	3	1	6	2

FAITH

Adi Sankara, the *jagath guru*

Krishna said, "*Paritranaay saadhunam vinaashaay cha dushkritaam, dharmasanstha panaarthay sambhavaami yuge yuge*" (to protect the righteous, to annihilate the wicked, and to reestablish the principles of dharma, I appear on this earth, age after age). Many *mahans* have appeared on this earth, some to offer protection to *sadhus*, some to overcome demons. However, only those *avatars* are celebrated to this day where the proponents establish dharma through practice. Devotees connect to Rama and Krishna. Similarly, there is only one *jagath guru*, who established practices and remains a guide to all devotees. This is Adi Sankara, said Damodhara Dikshidhar.

To disseminate our sastras and guide devotees is not an easy task; our Vedas are limitless, the information contained are vast and complex. One cannot read and process all the information in the Vedas in one's lifetime. However, Adi Sankara, born in Kalady in the 8th century, walked the talk. Travelling across the country, he visited countless *kshetras*, engaged in debates and discourses and is credited with having removed the first knot (in understanding the religion), making it easy for other *acharyas* following him to remove the rest of the knots.

Adi Sankara said bhakti is an easy way to reach God, but that alone is not enough. One should not give up *sampradaya* in the name of *karma*. Bhakti is a means to realising the ultimate truth (Brahman). Like a river following its course and reaching the sea, one should be a complete devotee, like Kannappa, who sacrificed his eyes for Siva. He was not well versed in rituals and practices, but his devotion was pristine.

INBRIEF

April manufacturing growth hits 10-month high, PMI shows

India's manufacturing sector growth accelerated in April to its strongest pace in 10 months, powered by robust export demand and increased output despite companies raising selling prices at the fastest rate in over 11 years, a survey showed on Friday. The HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global, inched up to 58.2 in April from 58.1 in March, a tad lower than a preliminary estimate of 58.4. *Reuters*

Poonam Gupta takes over as RBI Deputy Governor

Poonam Gupta took over as the Deputy Governor of RBI on Friday. The Centre had on April 2, appointed her to the post of Deputy Governor for a period of three years from the date of joining. Dr. Gupta will look after the departments of Monetary Policy, Financial Markets Operations, Economic and Policy Research, Financial Stability , International, Statistics and Information Management, Corporate Strategy and Budget, and Communication.

SMS Pharma's Vizag plant bags WHO prequalification

SMS Pharmaceuticals' manufacturing (Unit VII) facility in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, has received prequalification approval from the World Health Organization (WHO). Apart from enhancing its global regulatory standing, the pre-qualification will enable it to increase presence in the global market for anti-retroviral (ARV) active pharmaceutical ingredients (API), the company said. SMS Pharma operates two manufacturing facilities in Hyderabad and Vizag.

iPhones sold in the U.S. to be sourced mostly from India in June quarter

Vallari Sanzgiri
MUMBAI

Apple CEO Tim Cook said its flagship iPhones sold in the U.S. for the June quarter will be predominantly made in India, where the smartphone maker reported record quarterly earnings prompting it to open more stores.

Responding to questions from analysts on sourcing of iPhones sold in the U.S., Mr. Cook said, "For the June quarter, we do expect the majority of iPhones sold in the U.S. will have India as their country of origin."

At present, bulk of the iPhones sold in the U.S. are assembled in China. However, in the ongoing tariff war unleashed by the U.S., imports from China will be subject to high tariffs pushing up the cost of iPhones sold in the U.S.

"What we have learned was that having everything in one location had too much risk with it so we have, with certain parts of the supply chain, opened up new sources of supply. You can see that continuing in the future," said Mr. Cook. The existing tariffs that apply to Apple today are based on the product's country of origin, Mr. Cook said in the earnings call.

Earlier, reports had said that Apple plans to shift the assembly of all U.S.-sold iPhones to India soon, as trade war pushes tech giants away from China.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

SC junks JSW's Resolution Plan for Bhushan Steel

Resolution Professional utterly failed to discharge his statutory duties contemplated under the IBC and CIRP regulations during the course of entire CIR proceedings, says Justice Trivedi

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court, in a judgment, on Friday rejected the Resolution Plan submitted by JSW Steel for Bhushan Power and Steel Ltd. (BPSL).

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal had previously approved the Resolution Plan.

"The judgment passed by the NCLAT in allowing the company appeal of JSW and issuing the directions without any authority of law and without jurisdiction is perverse, coram non judice and liable to be set aside," a Bench headed by Justice Bela M. Trivedi said. The court found the Resolution Plan in "flagrant violation and contravention" of the law.

Strong rebuke: The CoC had failed to protect the interest of the creditors by taking contradictory stands , the SC said. FILE PHOTO

"The Resolution Professional had utterly failed to discharge his statutory duties contemplated under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) and the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) Regulations during the course of entire CIR proceedings of the corporate debtor, BPSL," the Supreme Court concluded.

The court faulted the Committee of Creditors (CoC) for accepting the Resolution Plan. The court further directed the National Company Law Tribunal to initiate liquidation proceedings against BPSL.

"The CoC had failed to exercise its commercial wisdom while approving the Resolution Plan of the JSW, which was in absolute contravention of the mandatory provisions of IBC and CIRP Regulations. The CoC also had failed to protect the interest of the creditors by taking contradictory stands before this court, and accepting the payments from JSW without any demurrer, and supporting JSW to implement its ill-motivated plan against the interest of the creditors," Justice Trivedi held. A spokesperson for JSW Steel said the company would decide its future course of action after reviewing the judgment with their legal advisors.

Adani to invest ₹13,000 cr. in Vizhinjam port

Lalatendu Mishra
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Adani Ports & SEZ Ltd. (APSEZ), the ports and logistics company of the Adani Group, will invest about ₹13,000 crore to further expand the capacity of the Vizhinjam International Deepwater Seaport at Thiruvananthapuram, which was dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday.

While the first phase of the project has been operational since last year, the additional investment will be made in the second phase of expansion which is scheduled to be completed in 2028.

The public private partnership (PPP) project has come up at an investment of ₹7,000 crore, in which APSEZ's contribution is ₹4,300 crore, said Karan Adani, MD, APSEZ.

To a question from *The Hindu*, Mr. Adani said, "We will invest ₹12,000 crore to ₹13,000 crore in the second phase, and the entire money will be invested by APSEZ." He said the company had approval for the second phase of expansion and the port's capacity would be increased to 5 million TEUs from 1 million TEUs currently.

He said for the second phase, the breakwater will be expanded by another 900 metres and the size of the berth will increase by 12 meters. The current length of the breakwater of 900 metres, has been constructed in water depths of 18 to 20 meters. The overall height of the breakwater is 28 meters. This is the deepest breakwater constructed in the country at a cost of ₹1,387 crore, fully funded by the Kerala government.

In 2015, the Government of Kerala signed an agreement with APSEZ to develop the port and Adani has a 40-year concession to build, operate, and transfer the port, with a provision for a 20-year extension.

(The writer was at Thiruvananthapuram at the invitation of Adani Ports)

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,502	0.32
US Dollar	84.57	-0.03
Gold	96,800	1.12
Brent oil	61.24	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2294.20	-7.10
Adani Ports	1267.10	50.60
Apollo Hosp	6954.50	-22.50
Asian Paints	2409.80	-15.90
Axis Bank	1182.20	-2.80
Bajaj Auto	7836.50	-193.50
Bajaj Finserv	1958.00	6.40
Bajaj Finance	8862.50	228.00
Bharat Elec	311.35	-2.75
Bharti Airtel	1851.90	-12.60
Cipla	1525.60	-24.50
Coal India	384.40	-0.90
Dr Reddys Lab	1182.90	-1.00
Eicher Motors	5437.50	-129.50
Eternal Ltd.	234.29	1.77
Grasim Ind	2718.30	-19.20
HCL Tech	1576.50	9.00
HDFC Bank	1925.00	0.00
HDFC Life	727.75	-15.95
Hero MotoCorp	3740.50	-86.90
Hindalco	632.10	7.45
Hind Unilever	2323.90	-18.20
ICICI Bank	1432.40	5.40
IndusInd Bank	853.00	14.60
Infosys	1506.80	6.70
ITC	430.25	4.45
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	258.80	-1.62
JSW Steel	973.20	-56.60
Kotak Bank	2185.20	-22.90
L&T	3329.80	-11.20
M&M	2926.20	-2.60
Maruti Suzuki	12406.00	149.00
NestleIndia	2337.70	-50.50
NTPC	348.45	-6.10
ONGC	243.42	-1.03
PowerGrid Corp	303.95	-3.50
Reliance Ind	1422.40	17.40
SBI Life	1764.70	-1.10
State Bank	800.00	11.35
Shriram Finance Ltd.	604.20	-7.50
Sun Pharma	1829.40	-2.90
TataConsumerProduct	1156.80	-9.00
Tata Motors	652.00	7.75
Tata Steel	141.18	1.10
TCS	3444.70	-9.00
Tech Mahindra	1496.30	-6.70
Titan	3341.00	-38.70
Trent Ltd.	5148.00	-24.50
UltraTech Cement	11644.00	3.00
Wipro	242.87	1.37

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 02

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.38	84.70
Euro	95.68	96.06
British Pound	112.17	112.60
Japanese Yen (100)	58.38	58.61
Chinese Yuan	11.60	11.65
Swiss Franc	102.43	102.83
Singapore Dollar	65.12	65.38
Canadian Dollar	61.05	61.28
Malaysian Ringitt	19.80	19.90
Australian Dollar	54.27	54.48

Source:Indian Bank

Reliance Power arm, SECI sign 25-year power purchase pact

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Reliance Power Ltd's subsidiary, Reliance NU Suntech Private Ltd. said it has signed a 25-year long-term power purchase agreement (PPA) with the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), a Central PSU.

Reliance NU Suntech will develop and commission an integrated solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) project within the next 24 months.

The project entails capital investment of up to ₹10,000 crore.

Reliance NU Suntech-SECI PPA comprises supply of 930 MW of solar power integrated with 465 MW/1,860 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at competitive fixed tariff of ₹3.53 per kWh.

To achieve the contracted capacity of 930 MW, the project will deploy more than 1,700 MWp of installed solar generation capacity.

'Need to limit public debt to save on interest outgo'

Press trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's elevated public debt, which results in fairly large interest outgo, needs to be moderated to get a rating upgrade from global rating agencies, Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth said on Friday.

SEBI accuses Adani kin of insider trading, he seeks to settle

Reuters
MUMBAI

India's markets regulator alleged Pranav Adani, director of several Adani group firms and the nephew of the billionaire founder, shared price sensitive information and breached norms aimed at preventing insider trading, according a document reviewed by *Reuters*.

Mr. Adani, the nephew of Gautam Adani, was sent a notice by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) last year, which alleged he shared information about Adani Green's 2021 acquisition of SoftBank-backed SB Energy Holdings with his brother-in-law before the deal was announced, according to a source and the document.

In an e-mailed response to *Reuters*, Mr. Pranav said he was seeking to settle the charges 'to put an end to the matter, without admission or denial of the allegations and that "he has not violated any securities law.'

Adani Green's acquisition of SB Energy is the largest in India in the renewable energy sector.

Discussions underway

Settlement terms were being discussed, said the source with direct knowledge of the matter, who declined to be named as the matter is confidential.

The scrutiny is the latest challenge for the Adani group. U.S. authorities last year indicted Mr. Gautam Adani and two Adani Green executives for allegedly paying bribes to secure Indian power supply contracts and misleading U.S. investors. The group has denied the charges.

Mr. Pranav 'communicated UPSI (unpublished price sensitive information) pertaining to the SB Energy acquisition' to his brother-in-law Kunal Shah, violating norms related to insider trading rules in 2021, said SEBI is a document showing call records and trading patterns.

Mr. Kunal Shah and Nrupal Shah, his brother, then traded in shares of Adani Green and made "ill-gotten gains" of ₹9 million, the document added.

The Shah brothers said in a statement sent by their law firm the trades were not executed with the "knowledge of any unpublished price sensitive information nor with any mala fide intent. "The information in question was already generally available in the public domain," the statement said.

SEBI did not respond to *Reuters* requests for comment.

Adani Green's acquisition of SB Energy on May 17, 2021 at an enterprise value of $3.5 billion is the largest acquisition in the renewable energy sector in India so far. Mr. Pranav Adani became aware of the impending acquisition two-three days prior to May 16, 2021, when the deal was finalised, said the markets regulator.

IOB posts ₹1,051 cr. Q4 net,₹4,000 cr. equity issue gets board nod

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Indian Overseas Bank's (IOB) quarterly net profit raced past ₹1,000 crore for the first time in the quarter ended March on the back of the public sector lender's total business increasing 11.30% year on year to ₹5,61,958 crore, net interest income (NII) rose 13.03% to ₹3,123 crore and even as a corporate account turned into a non-performing asset (NPA).

Net profit increased a little over 30% to ₹1,051 crore during the fourth quarter compared to ₹808 crore a year earlier. For the December quarter, the Chennai-headquartered bank had reported ₹874 crore net profit.

The IOB board has approved proposals to raise equity capital up to ₹4,000 crore; and tier II capital by issue of BASEL III-compliant tier II bonds of up to ₹1,000 crore in 2025-26. Both are likely to be raised in a few tranches, managing director and CEO Ajay Kumar Srivastava said on Friday. On completion of the equity capital raise, which is subject to obtaining the approval of shareholders and statutory/regulatory approvals, the government holding in the bank will come down from 94.6% to 90%.

For FY25, IOB's net profit increased 25.56% to ₹3,335 crore and NII by 10.79% to ₹10,890 crore. Recovery during the March quarter stood at ₹992 crore, he said, adding the bank is in a sound position despite the MTNL account of around ₹2,330 crore turning NPA.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, MPED-C,
Annex-2 Building, Ground Floor, BBMP Head Office Premises, NR Square, Bengaluru-560002
No.: EE/MPED-C/TEND/01/2025-26 Date: 02.05.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Short Term Tender Notification)
(Through GOK KPP-Portal Only)

Executive Engineer, MPED-C, invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing Mural works, Italian Marble, Audio cabling, fixing of mike, toilet fixtures and other allied works to Kempegowda council hall in HO Premises. **Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs) (Excluding GST):** 249.29, **EMD (in Rs.):** 3,74,000.00.

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the kpp Portal of the Government of Karnataka from **03.05.2025**. **(2)** Last date for receipt of queries is **12.05.2025** before **5:30 p.m.** through Kpp Portal only. **(3)** Pre-bid meeting will be held on **13.05.2025** at **4:00 p.m.** in the Office of the Chief Engineer (Projects Central), 4th Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP Head Offfice Premises, NR Square, Bengaluru-560002. **(4)** Tenders must be submitted online through the kpp Portal on or before **5:00 p.m.** on **20.05.2025** and the opening of tenders will be as per the kpp Portal guidelines. **(5)** Technical bids will be opened on the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, MPED-C Division on **21.05.2025** at **5:30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office, during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, MPED-C, BBMP

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಮುಖ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಕುಂದಗೋಳ
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: cmokundagol@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಾಆಕು/ಟೆಂಡರ್/15/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02-05-2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಕುಂದಗೋಳ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಸನ್ 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗಾಗಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಪ್ಪಂದದ ಮೇಲೆ ನೌಕರರ ಗ್ರೂಪ್-ಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03-05-2025 ರಿಂದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರ್ಮ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03-05-2025 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02-06-2025 ರವರೆಗೆ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ರೂ. 59.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ವಿವರವಾದ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಷರತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9.30 ರಿಂದ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಮುಖ್ಯ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಕುಂದಗೋಳ.

ಪಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/110/ಆಡ್ಮಿಟೋಸ್/2025-26

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in

Scan the QR code to register your feedback

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ರಾಯಚೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
Website:-www.raichurcity.gov.in E-mail:itstaff_ulb_raichura@yahoo.com
Phone No:08532-226768 Fax No:08532-226316

ಸಂ.ರಾಮಪಾ/ತಾ/ಕಾ/ಅ/ನ.ನಿ/01,22,29,191/24-25/25-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29-04-2025.

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ 2.0 ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ).

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ತೋರಿಸಿದ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂಬರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ 2.0 ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು WWW.KPPP.Karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವಳಿಗಾಗಿ ನಗರಸಭೆಯ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ WWW.raichurcity.mrc. gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರಸಂ	ಅನುದಾನದ ವಿವರ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂಬರ
1	ಎಸ್.ಬಿ.ಎಂ. 1.0 ಅನುದಾನ	Purchasing of Proposed 50 TPD Trommel Machinery for SWM Site at Raichur City **Estimate Amount Rs. 117,00,000/-**	DMA/2024-25/PM/WORK_INDENT35991/Call-2
2	ಕೆ.ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ಡಿ.ಬಿ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ	Construction of High-Tech Toilet At Bapanayan Doddi Ward No.17 In Raichur City. **Estimate Amount Rs. 75,00,000/-**	DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT32857/Call-3
3	ಮಹಾ ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ	Providing and Erection Of Barricading Bamboo (Thatti) And Ballies For Water Kiosks (Neerina Aravatige) At Various Places In Raichur City. **Estimate Amount Rs.** 13,80,000/-	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT 39361
4	2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ	Construction of RCC Drain from Singanodi John's House to Shasikala's House in Kindigeri area in Ward No 02 in Raichur City. **Estimate Amount Rs.** 12,36,000/-	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT39369

DIP/RCR/62/KSMCA/62/2025-26

ಸಹಿ/- ಆಯುಕ್ತರು
ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ರಾಯಚೂರು

LONDON

EU slaps TikTok with $600 mn fine over user data transfers to China

AP

European Union privacy watchdogs fined TikTok $600 million on Friday after a four-year investigation found that the app's data transfers to China breached the EU's strict data privacy rules. Ireland's Data Protection Commission ordered the company to comply with the rules within six months. AP

GENEVA

At least 200 killed in post-quake attacks by Myanmar military: UN

AFP

The United Nations decried on Friday continuing deadly attacks by Myanmar's military despite a ceasefire declared following the quake that killed nearly 3,800 people. UN rights chief Volker Turk said since the quake and up to April 29, "the military has reportedly launched at least 243 attacks with over 200 civilians reportedly killed". AFP

SYDNEY

Australia launches 'world's largest' electric-powered catamaran

AFP

An Australian boatbuilder launched what it described as the world's largest electric-powered ship on Friday, a 130-metre behemoth capable of carrying 2,100 passengers. Identified by boatbuilder Incat as *Hull 096*, the aluminium catamaran is powered by more than 250 tonnes of batteries. AFP

JERUSALEM

Downed two missiles launched from Yemen, says Israel's army

AP

Israel's army said on Friday it intercepted two missiles fired towards its territory from Yemen within 12 hours, with at least one attack claimed by the country's Houthi rebels. An explosion was heard over Jerusalem as the military said it was intercepting the second projectile. AFP

Germany's AfD is branded as 'extremist' by spy agency

The party is a threat to the country's democratic order, and it 'disregards human dignity', says Germany's domestic intelligence service; AfD calls the move 'a severe blow to German democracy'

Associated Press
BERLIN

The German domestic intelligence service said on Friday it has classified the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party, which placed second in national elections in February, as a "right-wing extremist" organisation – making it subject to greater and broader surveillance of its activities.

The Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution described the party as a threat to the country's democratic order, saying it "disregards human dignity" – in particular by what it called "ongoing agitation" against refugees and migrants.

Under surveillance: Alternative for Germany's co-leader Alice Weidel during a party congress in Riesa. FILE PHOTO

Germany's move to classify the AfD as a right-wing extremist group means its officials can now use informants and other tools such as audio and video recordings to monitor its activities nationwide. But it also risks fuelling the party's claims of political persecution. Far-right parties have been gaining ground across Europe and the AfD attracts international attention.

Party leaders Alice Weidel – who met with U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance after the February elections – and Tino Chrupalla condemned the move as "a severe blow to German democracy," given that the party has grown into one of the country's most popular political forces. They alleged that it was politically motivated, a claim the government denies.

"The AfD will continue to legally defend itself against these democracy-endangering defamations," they said.

In its ruling, the intelligence service said that AfD's understanding of German identity as being based on ethnicity is "incompatible with the free democratic basic order."

It added that the party's political positions have underpinned "continuous agitation" against minorities and stirred fear and hostility toward them.

Israeli attacks kill at least 29 people, say Gaza rescuers

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli strikes killed at least 29 people on Friday in the Palestinian territory, devastated by war and under a total Israeli aid blockade for two months.

Israel resumed its military campaign in the Gaza Strip on March 18 after the collapse of a ceasefire.

Nine people were killed when an Israeli air strike hit a home in Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza, civil defence official Mohammed al-Mughayyir said. Another six people were killed in a separate strike in the northern city of Beit Lahia. In Gaza City, a strike on a community kitchen claimed the lives of six more. Elsewhere across the Gaza Strip, eight additional fatalities were reported in similar attacks.

Drones strike ship carrying aid to Gaza, say organisers

Associated Press
TEL AVIV

Drones attacked a vessel carrying aid to Gaza while it was in international waters off Malta on Friday, the group organising the shipment said. A fire broke out but was brought under control, according to authorities.

A nearby tugboat responded to a distress call from the Conscience, which was carrying 12 crew members and four civilians, Malta's government said, adding that those aboard refused to leave their ship. The group was safe and no injuries were reported, it said.

Fighting fire: A Malta Vessel Traffic Services ship douses fire at the vessel Conscience in the international waters off Malta on Friday. AFP

Israel accused

The Freedom Flotilla Coalition accused Israel of attacking its ship. It did not provide evidence of that or that the fire was caused by drones, but in a video it shared an explosion can be heard. Another video showed a fire blazing.

The Israeli army didn't respond to a request for comment.

Israel has cut off Gaza from all imports, including food and medicine, since the beginning of March, leading to what is believed to be the worst humanitarian crisis in nearly 19 months of war with Hamas. Israel says it is an attempt to pressure the militant group to release hostages it took during the October 7, 2023, attack that triggered the conflict.

Charlie Andreasson, who has been involved with the group, said that he had spoken to people on board who said there were two explosions and a fire broke out.

Earlier the group said the strike appeared to have targeted the ship's generator, causing a "substantial breach in the hull" and leaving it without power. It said that put the vessel at risk of sinking.

China 'evaluates' U.S. overtures for trade negotiations

Associated Press
BEIJING

China's Commerce Ministry said on Friday that Beijing is evaluating multiple approaches by the Trump administration for trade talks, but steep tariffs imposed by Washington must go.

A Ministry statement reiterated China's stance that is open to talks, but also that Beijing is determined to fight if it must. It said one-sided tariffs of up to 145% remain an obstacle, undermining trust.

"The tariff and trade wars were unilaterally initiated by the U.S., if the U.S. side wants to talk, it should show its sincerity, and be ready to take action on issues such as correcting wrong practices and cancelling the unilateral imposition of tariffs," it said.

An unnamed ministry spokesperson was cited as saying that Beijing had taken note of various statements by senior U.S. officials indicating a willingness to negotiate over tariffs. "At the same time, the U.S. has recently taken the initiative to convey information to the Chinese side on a number of occasions through relevant parties, hoping to talk with the Chinese side. In this regard, the Chinese side is making an assessment," it said. But it emphasised that China would regard overtures without a change in U.S. President Donald Trump's sharp tariff hikes as insincere.

Beijing reiterated that it is determined to fight Trump's trade tariffs if it must

"Saying one thing but doing another, or even attempting to engage in coercion and blackmail under the guise of talks, will not work on the Chinese side," it said.

Share prices jump

China is in the midst of a public holiday, with government offices and markets closed. But share prices in Hong Kong jumped 1.7% early on Friday, while Taiwan's benchmark index was up 2.2%. U.S. futures also advanced.

As of Friday, the Trump administration is ending a duty-free exemption on low-value imports from China. That will mean higher prices and delivery delays when the government starts collecting tariffs on every single shipment.

Beijing has responded to Mr. Trump's tariff hikes by raising its own duties on imports of U.S. products to as high as 125%. It has also tightened restrictions on exports to the U.S. of certain strategically important minerals.

Trump signs order to cut NPR, PBS funding

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Thursday to cut public funding for National Public Radio (NPR) and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), accusing the news outlets of being biased in his latest attack on traditional media.

Mr. Trump has long had an antagonistic relationship with most mainstream news media, previously describing them as the "enemy of the people." An exception is *Fox News*.

NPR and PBS are partly funded by U.S. taxpayers through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and rely heavily on private donations.

Reform U.K. wins local polls in a blow to PM

Agence France-Presse
RUNCORN

Nigel Farage

Hard-right upstart Reform U.K. snatched a parliamentary seat from Prime Minister Keir Starmer's Labour on Friday in a byelection, besides putting up a strong show in local polls that dealt a blow to Britain's two establishment parties.

Reform, led by anti-immigrant firebrand Nigel Farage, won the byelection in Runcorn and Helsby in northwest England by just six votes, as it picked up gains in other localities, including its first mayoralty. "This is heartland Labour Party. Their vote has collapsed, and much of it's come to us," said Mr. Farage. "And that does away with the sort of media narrative that somehow it's just us versus the Conservatives. It's not. This is a whole different politics," he added.

The group's strong showing – overturning a huge Labour majority in one of the party's safest seats – continues momentum seen at last year's general election and appears to confirm a trend that the U.K. is entering an era of multi-party politics.

Reform also picked up dozens of council seats from both Labour and the Conservatives as Britain's long-established political landscape showed signs of fragmenting. In the fight for six mayoralties, Reform won Greater Lincolnshire with Labour holding three. Labour, however, only narrowly held the North Tyneside mayoralty after a 26-percent swing to Reform.

Reform's byelection victory takes its number of parliamentary seats to five.

Bhubaneswar Development Authority
Bhubaneshwar Development Authority
Akash Shova Building, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751001.
Ph: +91-0674-2392801

RFP No.: 8172/ BDA — Dated : 28/04/2025
File No.- BDA-TP-PLAN-0001-2025

SELECTION OF CONSULTANCY FIRM FOR PLANNING & DESIGNING OF TOWN PLANNING SCHEME (TPS No.-5, 6 & 7) UNDER ZONE 1 OF PROPOSED BDA TOWN PLANNING SCHEMES IN BHUBANESWAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREA (BDPA)

Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) intends to select an agency for **"Selection of Consultancy Firm for Planning & Designing of Town Planning Scheme (TPS No.-5, 6 & 7) under Zone 1 of Proposed BDA town Planning Schemes in Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area (BDPA).**

Interested agencies may participate in this tender and submit their proposal. The RFP documents will be available **from 30.04.2024 to 23.05.2025** and can be downloaded from Odisha e-procurement portal i.e., **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. The completed proposal, as per instruction in the RFP document, should be submitted on the portal latest by **23.05.2025 up to 17:00 hrs. Please refer to the RFP document for further details.**

BDA reserves the right to cancel this invitation and / or invite fresh Bid / RFP with or without amendments to this invitation, without liability or any obligation for such invitation and without assigning any reason. BDA also reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Secretary, Bhubaneswar Development Authority, Bhubaneswar.

CAD-265: OIPR-13033/11/0284/2526

CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute
Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow-226001 U.P. (India)
Website : https://www.nbri.res.in

Short Advertisement No.01/2025

Date and time of Commencement of Registration / Online Application & Application Fee Submission (Online)	03-05-2025 from 10:00 AM
Last date of submission of the Online Application (Thereafter website link will be disabled)	02-06-2025 upto 06:00 PM

Applications in the prescribed format are invited from eligible candidates for the following positions:-

Designation	No. of posts	Pay level	Upper age limit
Technical Assistant	Total – 09 posts [UR-04, OBC–01, SC–02, EWS–01 & PwBD (B&L)–01]	06	28 years
Technician (1)	Total – 18 posts [UR-06, OBC-06, SC-03, EWS-02, PwBD (B&L)-01]	02	28 years
JSA (F&A)	Total – 01 post [OBC-01]	02	28 years
JSA (S&P)	Total – 02 posts [UR-01, SC-01]	02	28 years

Candidates have to apply online on **https://recruitment.nbri.res.in** or by visiting Institute's website **https://www.nbri.res.in** and applying on the link available there. The detailed advertisement, terms & conditions and instructions to the candidates are available on Institute's website **https://www.nbri.res.in.**

Senior Controller of Administration

E-mail.ID-sectcrb_2006@yahoo.co.in ; Tel/Fax – 0671-2301751/2302751
Government of Odisha
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CUTTACK (R&B) CIRCLE, CUTTACK
('e' – PROCUREMENT NOTICE)
Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B)1/2025-26

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Building works as mentioned below.
2. No. of work : 05 Nos.
3. Nature of work : Building Works.
4. Class of contractor : 'B', & 'A' Class
5. Tender Paper Cost : Rs.10000/- (Online)
6. Available of bid document in the web site : From 14.05.2025 to 17.30 Hours of 28.05.2025
7. Date of opening of bid : Dt. 29.05.2025 at 11.00 Hours.
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said web site.

Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle

B-73: OIPR-34012/11/0034/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
SUBARNAREKHA IRRIGATION CIRCLE, LAXMIPOSI
At/PO: -LAXMIPOSI, Dist.: -Mayurbhanj, PIN: -757107. Mail id: acesic24@gmail.com
Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No.- 01 /2025-26 of Additional Chief Engineer, SIC, Laxmiposi

1.	Name of Work	A. "Development of Tourism Infrastructure near Haldia Dam site under Kuliana Block".
		B. "Development of Tourism Infrastructure near Jambhira Dam site under Morada Block".
2.	Estimated Cost	A. Rs.3,23,66,173.00/-
		B. Rs.1,59,38,762/-
3.	Bid Security / EMD	A. Rs.3,23,700/-
		B. Rs.1,59,400/-
4.	Period of Completion	A. 15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months
		B. 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months
5.	Class of Contractor	A) 'A' Class ; B) 'A' & 'B' Class
6.	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	03.05.2025 at 10.00 AM
7.	Last date / time for receipt of bid in the portal	19.05.2025 up to 5.00 PM
8.	Date of Opening of bid	20.05.2025 at 11.00 A.M.
9.	Name & Address of the O.I.T.	Additional Chief Engineer, Subarnarekha Irrigation Circle,Laxmiposi

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in".

Additional Chief Engineer, S. I. C, Laxmiposi

A- : OIPR-32120/11/0004/2526

MILESTONE

Sai Sudharsan fastest Indian and second quickest to 2000 T20 runs

VIJAY SONEJI

Sai Sudharsan has become the fastest Indian batter and the second quickest overall to cross the 2000-run mark in T20 cricket, needing just 54 innings to do so. The Gujarat Titans batter broke Sachin Tendulkar's record of 59 innings. Only Shaun Marsh has reached the milestone in lesser visits (53) than Sai Sudharsan.

SURFACE TENSION

Just want to see good pitches all around the country, says Hussey

K. MURALI KUMAR

Groundsmen are employed to produce good pitches. I think, generally, the pitches have been excellent. I never like it when teams try and get an advantage by producing a pitch that helps them too much or can affect a game. I just want to see good pitches all around the country — CSK batting coach Michael Hussey.

BIG HELP

Preparation paying off for me in this IPL, says Padikkal

K. MURALI KUMAR

In the last couple of years, I didn't have too much preparation leading into IPL, and that probably had an effect on my batting. So it's good that this year I got the opportunity. It's been really helpful, all the work that I've put in over the last couple of months leading into the tournament — Devdutt Padikkal on his performance in IPL-18.

HOPES ALIVE

Would love to be back in the Indian set-up again: Rahane

EMMANUAL YOGINI

KKR captain Ajinkya Rahane, who last donned India colours in a Test in 2023, said he would love to be back in the national set-up again. "The desire, the hunger, the fire is still there. Fitness-wise, I'm right up there... I'm a guy who will never give up. Every day when I wake up, it's about wanting to represent my country," he said.

Run-fest and running through: Gill was all elegance and Buttler was all aggression as the two waded into the Sunrisers attack. Prasidh & Co. then sealed Titans' comprehensive win with a clinical bowling performance. VIJAY SONEJI

Gill and Buttler sizzle as Titans outshine Sunrisers

Skipper's rapid opening partnership with Sai Sudharsan sets the platform for the host; SRH's bowlers, barring Unadkat, disappoint; Abhishek's knock goes in vain; GT climbs to the second spot

IPL-18

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
AHMEDABAD

An 87-run opening partnership between Shubman Gill (76, 38b, 10x4, 2x6) and B. Sai Sudharsan (48, 23b, 9x4), and Jos Buttler's 37-ball 64 (3x4, 4x6), helped Gujarat Titans to a 38-run win over Sunrisers Hyderabad in an IPL clash at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Friday.

If Neville Cardus watched the GT openers bat, he would have called their union 'the midsummer night's dream of T20 cricket.'

They made the viewer feel better about life having just watched them bat.

Wristy

Gill, with a frugal flick of his wrists that seemed to turn on springs of the finest steel, exasperated cricket's finest bowlers in Mohammed Shami and Pat Cummins - a flick for a six to backward square leg off the former, and a whip for a six to midwicket off the latter.

Twice in a row off Cummins, he played his cover drive, a thing of ethereal beauty that even Michelangelo would have painted him playing it.

On a roll

Sai Sudharsan, on the other hand, slipped the ball through the fielders like sand through rocks.

He hit four consecutive fours off Shami in the third over, the most gentle and reined-in of all fours being a delicate steer between the short third and backward point.

Together, they were persistent and proficient wooers - they set the hearts throbbing with eye-pleasing shots, including Sai Sudharsan's on drive for a four off Harshal Patel.

It didn't last well beyond the PowerPlay, though. Leg-spinner Zeeshan Ansari had Sai Sudharsan caught behind in the first over after the PowerPlay.

Gill was agonisingly run out. He was caught short by Harshal's throw from short fine leg - keeper Heinrich Klaasen deflected the ball onto the stumps.

English flair

Buttler, then, accelerated with abandon until the 19th over, ensuring as he so often does that the tempo didn't plunge.

The Englishman brought out his signature ramp for a six off Shami, who ended with a terrible economy of 16.

Lone-ranger

In the second innings, opener Abhishek Sharma made a riotous 74 (41b, 4x4, 6x6), but unsupported, he couldn't drag his team past the finish line for its maiden win at the venue.

For GT, Ishant Sharma went off the field, seemingly injured, in the final over that R. Sai Kishore completed.

SCOREBOARD

GUJARAT TITANS

Shubman Gill run out 76 *(38b, 10x4, 2x6)*, B. Sai Sudharsan c Klaasen b Zeeshan 48 *(23b, 9x4)*, Jos Buttler c Abhishek b Cummins 64 *(37b, 3x4, 4x6)*, Washington Sundar c Nitish b Unadkat 21 *(16b, 1x6)*, M. Shahrukh Khan (not out) 6 *(2b, 1x6)*, Rahul Tewatia c Aniket b Unadkat 6 *(3b, 1x6)*, Rashid Khan c & b Unadkat 0 *(1b)*; Extras (w-3): 3; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 224.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-87 (Sai Sudharsan, 6.5 overs), 2-149 (Gill, 12.6), 3-206 (Buttler, 18.4), 4-218 (Washington, 19.2), 5-224 (Tewatia, 19.5), 6-224 (Rashid, 19.6).

SUNRISERS BOWLING

Shami 3-0-48-0, Unadkat 4-0-35-3, Cummins 4-0-40-1, Harshal 3-0-41-0, Zeeshan 4-0-42-1, Mendis 2-0-18-0.

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD

Travis Head **(Impact Player for Shami)** c Rashid b Prasidh 20 *(16b, 4x4)*, Abhishek Sharma c Siraj b Ishant 74 *(41b, 4x4, 6x6)*, Ishan Kishan c Prasidh b Coetzee 13 *(17b)*, Heinrich Klaasen c Buttler b Prasidh 23 *(18b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Aniket Verma c Shahrukh b Siraj 3 *(7b)*, Nitish Kumar (not out) 21 *(10b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Kamindu Mendis c Buttler b Siraj 0 *(1b)*, Pat Cummins (not out) 19 (10b, 1x4, 1x6); Extras (lb-6, w-7): 13; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 186.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-49 (Head, 4.3), 2-82 (Kishan, 9.3), 3-139 (Abhishek, 14.6), 4-141 (Klaasen, 15.3), 5-145 (Aniket, 16.4), 6-145 (Mendis, 16.5).

TITANS BOWLING

Siraj 4-0-33-2, Ishant **(Impact Player for Sai Sudharsan)** 3.2-0-35-1, Prasidh 4-0-19-2, Coetzee 4-0-36-1, Washington 1-0-6-0, Rashid 3-0-50-0, Sai Kishore 0.4-0-1-0.

Toss: SRH; **PoM:** Prasidh.

Titans won by 38 runs.

Next assignment

SRH: May 5 vs DC
Hyderabad, 7.30 p.m.

GT: May 6 vs MI
Mumbai, 7.30 p.m.

A Royal Challengers-Super Kings battle with surprisingly low stakes

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

It is not often that Chennai Super Kings visits Royal Challengers Bengaluru with the stakes this low. Last May at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, the famed rivals were locked in a direct battle for the last available Indian Premier League playoffs spot.

But come Saturday, all that is left for the already-eliminated M.S. Dhoni & Co. is the search for some signs of life after being deflated and dead for most part of the season.

In contrast, RCB will have a spring in its step. It is sitting pretty in the top half of the table and is coming into the game after winning three on the bounce. Another victory – its eighth this edition – will help the side take a giant stride towards playoffs qualification.

Rajat Patidar's men will certainly fancy their chances. Powered by Virat Kohli's consistency, Krunal Pandya's all-round prowess and Josh Hazlewood's nous, they have been clinical, especially on the road. And just over a week ago, they notched up their first win at home after having lost three consecutively.

Toss has played a significant role in Bengaluru in 2025 with teams batting second finding it a tad easier. Saturday's forecast is for rain, which can make things tricky.

Swashbuckling opener Phil Salt's availability is still under a cloud. But these are challenges RCB would want to take head on as it seeks to burnish its credentials as a champion outfit.

The visitors, meanwhile, will look for a few green shoots in what has been a dismal campaign. The Garden City will give them respite from the unrelenting heat back home. A cool performance will further relieve parched throats.

In smashing form: RCB will bank on Kohli to continue his exploits. K. MURALI KUMAR

Hussey strikes a defiant note, says Super Kings need not panic

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

The IPL has always prided itself for being supremely competitive, with closely bunched teams jostling for the four playoffs spots.

But in 2025, the elimination of Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals with more than three weeks left has come as a rude shock. However, CSK batting coach Michael Hussey stated that the gulf between the teams was not as pronounced.

"I know we're sitting at the bottom, but I don't think we're too far away," the Aussie said on Friday ahead of the match against Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

"I still think we're close, and we can compete with any team. We're certainly not going to panic and throw everything out just because it hasn't gone well this year. But we definitely need to tidy up on a few areas," Hussey added.

One team that has capitalised and turned in superlative performances is RCB, and among the big reasons has been the form of its explosive top-three of Phil Salt, Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal.

"When you have players like Virat and Salt at the top, and some really good power-hitting towards the end, it makes your job easier," Padikkal said.

"You don't have too much pressure to really go long in the innings".

Today's match

RCB vs. Chennai Super Kings

Bengaluru, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: 34

RCB 12 | CSK 21 | NR 1

PREVIOUS MEETING

RCB won by **50 runs**, 2025

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

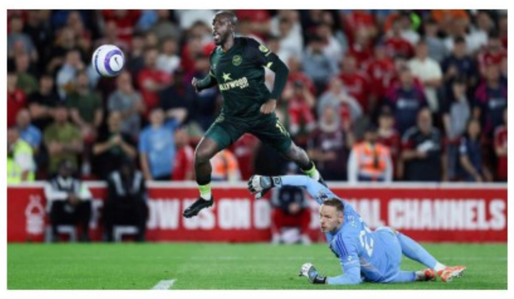
Double impact: Brevis has contributed with the bat as well as on the field. K. MURALI KUMAR

Points table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Mumbai Indians	11	7	4	0	14	1.274
Gujarat Titans	10	7	3	0	14	0.867
Royal Challengers	10	7	3	0	14	0.521
Punjab Kings	10	6	3	1	13	0.199
Delhi Capitals	10	6	4	0	12	0.362
Lucknow Super Giants	10	5	5	0	10	-0.325
Kolkata Knight Riders	10	4	5	1	9	0.271
Rajasthan Royals (E)	11	3	8	0	6	-0.780
Sunrisers Hyderabad	10	3	7	0	6	-1.192
Chennai Super Kings (E)	10	2	8	0	4	-1.211

* Till the GT-SRH match on May 2 E: Eliminated

INBRIEF



Forest's Champions League dreams suffer a hit

Nottingham Forest suffered a huge blow in its push for a return to the Champions League after decades away as Brentford came away from the City Ground with a 2-0 win on Thursday. A third defeat in four games, courtesy of goals from Kevin Schade (44th minute) and Yoane Wissa (70), leaves the stumbling two-time European champion outside the Premier League's top five with just four games remaining. This season, the top five will all qualify for the Champions League after strong performances in Europe from Premier League teams.

Popovich stepping down as Spurs coach after 29 seasons

San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich is stepping down after 29 seasons, six months after being sidelined by a stroke, the NBA team announced on Friday. San Antonio said in a statement that Popovich, 76, who suffered a stroke in November, would transition to a new role as president of basketball operations. He led the team to five NBA championships, became the league's all-time wins leader and earned induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Man United, Tottenham in control of semifinals

Big wins for Manchester United and Tottenham in the first legs of the Europa League semifinals on Thursday kept alive their hopes of lifting a major trophy and qualifying for the Champions League. United beat Athletic Bilbao 3-0 at the San Mames in Spain and Tottenham won 3-1 at home against Norwegian club Bodo / Glimt. Chelsea completed a good night for English teams by beating Djurgarden 4-1 in Sweden in the first leg of their UEFA Conference League semifinal.

The results (semifinal, first legs): Europa League: Tottenham 3 (Johnson 1, Maddison 34, Solanke 61-pen) bt Bodo/Glimt 1 (Saltnes 83); Athletic Bilbao 0 lost to Manchester United 3 (Casemiro 30, Fernandes 37-pen, 45).

Conference League: Real Betis 2 (Ezzalzouli 6, Antony 64) bt Fiorentina 1 (Ranieri 73); Djurgarden 1 (Alemayehu Mulugeta 68) lost to Chelsea 4 (Sancho 13, Madueke 43, Jackson 59, 65).

Will Khalid & Co. spoil Marquez's bid for a fairytale ending at FC Goa?

The Spanish head coach will want to leave the club on a high before shifting focus towards managing the Indian men's national team

SUPER CUP FINAL

Joan Mathew Jacob
BHUBANESWAR

FC Goa head coach Manolo Marquez will look to rally his men for one last time and secure his first silverware at the club when it takes on Jamshedpur FC in the Super Cup 2025 final at the Kalinga Stadium here on Saturday.

Goa breezed past a second-string Mohun Bagan Super Giant 3-1 in the semifinals while JFC edged Mumbai City FC 1-0.

With an AFC Champions League 2 (ACL2) Preliminary Round spot up for grabs, a win will be a perfect parting gift for Marquez, who will shift his focus towards managing the Indian men's national team.

Third time's the charm

Marquez will hope that third time's the charm for him against his opposite number, Khalid Jamil, who became the first gaffer to do an Indian Super League double over Marquez since he arrived on Indian shores in 2020.

However, the Spanish coach affirmed that none of the past results were playing on his or the players' minds.

Different challenge

"Every game is different. Now, it's just about two teams trying to win one game to secure a slot in the Asian competition," Marquez said during the pre-match press conference.

Leading the charge

The overseas players have led the charge for Goa, scoring six out of its eight goals in the tournament so far.

Spanish forward Iker Guarrotxena has found the back of the net four times, while Borja Herrera has scored twice.

On the other hand, in contrast to its league campaign, where it conceded the second-most goals, JFC's defence has been its strongest suit so far in the competition and is yet to concede a goal.

Now, as the curtains are set to be pulled on a gruelling season of Indian club football, can Marquez end his reign over the Gaurs on a high, or will Khalid play spoilsport and lead JFC to its first-ever continental football?

Ready for the fight: Marquez will hope to get back at Khalid, who did an ISL double over the Spanish gaffer. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Bose and Soumya hog the limelight in AIFF awards

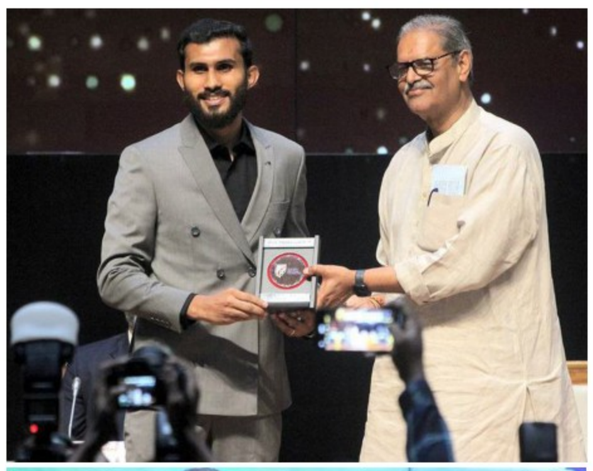
Press Trust of India
BHUBANESWAR

India defender and Mohun Bagan Super Giant's ISL double-winning captain Subhasish Bose was on Friday named the country's Men's Player of the Year while East Bengal FC striker Soumya Guguloth won the honour in the women's section.

Jamshedpur FC gaffer Khalid Jamil was named the Men's Coach of the Year for the second time in a row during the awards function hosted by the All India Football Federation.

Sujata Kar was given the Women's Coach of the Year award for leading newly promoted Sribhumi FC to a third-place finish in the Indian Women's League.

The awardees: Men's Player of the Year: Subhasish Bose (Mohun Bagan SG); **Women's Player of the Year:** Soumya Guguloth (East Bengal FC); **Men's Coach of the Year:** Khalid Jamil (Jamshedpur FC); **Women's Coach of the Year:** Sujata Kar (Sribhumi FC); **Most Promising Men's Player of the Year:** Brison Fernandes (FC Goa); **Most Promising Women's Player of the Year:** Thoibisana Chanu (Sreebhumi); **Men's Goalkeeper of the Year:** Vishal Kaith (Mohun Bagan); **Women's Goalkeeper of the Year:** Panthoi Chanu (East Bengal); **Male Referee of the Year:** R. Venkatesh; **Female Referee of the Year:** Tekcham Ranjita Devi; **Male Assistant Referee of the Year:** P. Vairamuthu; **Female Assistant Referee of the Year:** Riiohlang Dhar.



Recognition: Odisha Deputy CM Kanak Vardhan Singhdeo presents the awards to Bose and Soumya. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Honour: Odisha Sports Minister Suryabanshi Suraj gives away the awards to Khalid and Sujata. BISWARANJAN ROUT

I will forever remember this, hope to win more: Soumya

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

East Bengal FC striker Soumya Guguloth believes that winning the 2025 AIFF Women's Player of the Year award is a reward for all her efforts to rise through the ranks so far.

"After so many years of hard work and having dealt with injuries, it's good to get my hands on this award. It is my first individual award. I will forever remember this and I hope to win many more in the future," Soumya told *The Hindu*.

With nine goals, Soumya was the third-highest goal scorer in the recently concluded edition of the IWL, an achievement she looks back on proudly.

"It felt very good to secure the title for East Bengal. It also feels good that a girl from Telangana has scored the goals to help the team secure the win," the 23-year-old remarked.

Soumya.
INSTAGRAM@SOUMYA_GUGULOTH

The Nizamabad native's 67th-minute strike against defending champion Odisha FC in the penultimate match of the season helped the Kolkata giant clinch the crown, a goal she picked out as her favourite moment of the campaign.

"The goal that helped East Bengal become the champion stands out for me.

"If we had drawn that, it would have been difficult for us as we were set to play Gokulam Kerala in the final match," she said.

Pakistan in doubt for Asia Cup hockey after visa denial reports

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

The ongoing situation following the Pahalgam terror attack has put a question mark over Pakistan's participation in tournaments to be hosted by India later this year. The men's Asia Cup hockey in Rajgir from August 27-September 7, also a qualifying event for the 2026 World Cup, is the most obvious one.

Hockey India secretary general Bhola Nath Singh has insisted that "no discussions on the issue have been held so far but any decision will be taken only according to government guidelines" with the government having the final authority on the subject.

"We have not thought about it but it is not something we can decide on, we will wait for and abide by whatever the government decides," Singh added. Incidentally, Singh is also a vice-president of the Asian Hockey Federation, making him a representative of both the national and continental organisation. While there is no official word from the AHF, Hockey India or even PHF at the moment, reports from Pakistan have claimed that the team has already been formally refused visas.

FIH keeping watch

If true, it needs to be seen how the FIH and the Asian body move ahead.

The FIH, while not directly involved, is keeping a close eye on the developments and sources admitted the international body will have to take a call soon.

More so, since the FIH Junior World Cup is also scheduled to be held in Chennai-Madurai in December. Pakistan had earlier been denied visas for the 2016 JWC as well after the terrorist attack on a military camp with Malaysia stepping in as replacement on the basis of rankings.

Besides hockey, Chennai will also be hosting the WSF World Cup squash in December. The SRFI has also said it is too early at this stage to say anything. The Squash World Cup is a mixed-gender event with the 2023 edition – of eight teams without Pakistan – also held in Chennai.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Titles for Kishan and Hitasha

Kishan R and Hitasha Sisodiya from Karnataka won the men's and women's titles respectively in the ARC first South Zone tenpin bowling tournament at Amoeba, Bengaluru, on Friday.

In the men's final, Kishan stunned top seed Vivek Singh from Telangana 353-348.

In the women's final, Hitasha (366 pinfall) overcame Tamil Nadu's Sabeena Athica (352) and Sana Saleeem (319).

GST and Customs beats BOSCH

GST & Customs defeated BOSCH in the State 'B' division basketball league championship for men here on Friday.

The scores:

GST & Customs 82 (Bhuvan 18, Prem 14) bt BOSCH 51 (Arvind 19, Vijay 12).

Rajmahal BC 85 (Shishir 21, Mithil 19) bt Bangalore Vanguards 73 (Akshan Rao 30, Nihal 21).

Kishan and Hitasha... moment to cherish. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Vimanapura SC 58 (Aditya Ponappa 14, Nishanth 10) bt Devanga Union 45 (Vishnu 11, Keerthi 10).

Mandya District 48 (Shashank Gowda 13, Raghavendra 12) bt Bharath SU 44 (Akshay Prasad 14, Harshil 10).

Karnataka proves too hot for Tamil Nadu

Karnataka blanked Tamil Nadu 4-0 in the Swami Vivekananda under-20 men's national football championship on Friday.

The result:

Karnataka 4 (Saikhom Boris Singh 12, 74, B. Abhiram 77, S. Divij 84) bt Tamil Nadu 0.

AGORC beats Jawahar Union

AGORC FC defeated Jawahar Union FC 2-1 in the BDFA 'A' division football league championship here on Friday.

The results: BDFA 'A' division: AGORC FC 2 (Jaikumar 36, 47) bt Jawahar Union FC 1 (Ansh Bhambani 73); Vijaya Nagara FC 2 (Subhash Rai 55, Hentinesh Kipgen 90) bt Roots FS (KSFA) 0.

BDFA 'C' division: Bangalore Yellows FC bt Bangalore Blues FC 1-0.

KSFA 'C' division: MRU FC bt Shubhodaya FC 1-0; RV FGC bt Football Club Aura 1-0; Bangalore Champs Academy bt Blue Diamond 4-2.

Big win for DPS East

DPS East romped past Kapil Cricket Club by nine wickets in the Tiger Cup under-16 cricket tournament on Friday.

The scores:

Kapil CC 119 in 22.5 overs (Kriti Kumar 59, Krishna Kumar 3/19, Punith 3/27) lost to DPS East 121/1 in 10 overs (Shahan Shadab 55, Abhinav Kulkarni 27).

RKO3 31 in 20.3 overs (Rafa Poonacha 5/2) lost to DPS East 33/1 in 7.1 overs.

CBT 236/8 in 30 overs (Deep Mittra 58, Pranit 52, Deepsaran 40) bt The School of Cricket 144/4 in 30 overs (Anirudh Rayasam 72, Kahaan Halani 38, Rithvik Kulasekar 3/24).

DPS South 180 in 29 overs (S. Aakash 74, S.M. Diyan Afsar 31) bt RCA (Mysore) 131 in 25.3 overs (Dheemanth 53, S. Aakash 4/24).

LIVE TELECAST

Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 5, 7.30 & 10 p.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 10 p.m.

Formula One: Miami GP (Sprint race), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 9.30 p.m.; (Qualifying), 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)

KCA suspends Sreesanth for three years over Samson remarks

M.R. Praveen Chandran
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Cricket Association (KCA) has suspended former cricketer S. Sreesanth from all cricket activities of the association for three years.

The decision was taken at the special General Body meeting of KCA held in Kochi on April 30. Sreesanth had made controversial comments against the KCA, following Sanju Samson's exclusion from the Indian team for the ICC Champions Trophy.

Sreesanth is the co-owner of the Aries Kollam Sailors, one of the franchise teams in the Kerala Cricket League.

Sreesanth.
FILE PHOTO: THULASI KAKKAT

The KCA also decided not to take any action against Aries Kollam Sailors and Alleppey Ripples franchises after finding their reply to the show-cause notices satisfactory. However, KCA advised all franchises to exercise greater caution while appointing individuals in management roles.

The KCA had earlier issued show-cause notices to Aries Sailors, after Sreesanth's outburst, and against Alleppey Ripples after its lead content creator, Sai Krishna, went against the association on social media platforms.

The KCA also filed compensation cases against Samson Viswanath, Sanju Samson's father, former cricketer Reji Lukose and a Malayalam news anchor for defamatory remarks in public forums.